



Recess

Trump Pauses Campaign, Reports for Jury Duty

Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump leaves the courthouse after serving on jury duty in New York, Monday, Aug. 17, 2015. The Republican presidential candidate reported for jury duty in Manhattan on Monday and spent much of the day like everyone else, filling out forms and wondering whether he would get picked. (AP Photo/Seth Wenig)

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Big wildfire threatens resort town in Washington

N. K. GERANIOS
Associated Press

SPOKANE, Wash. (AP) — Big wildfires threatened the Lake Chelan resort region of central Washington on Monday after driving away tourists, destroying a warehouse filled with nearly 2 million pounds of apples and forcing thousands of residents to flee.

The several large fires burning near the town of Chelan have scorched more than 155 square miles and destroyed an estimated 75 homes and businesses Friday and Saturday, officials said. Scores of homes remain threatened, and mandatory evacuation orders remained in effect for more than 2,700 people in the Chelan area.

The Chelan fires were just some of the many destructive blazes burning throughout the Northwest. In northern Idaho, more than 40 homes were lost near the town of Kamiah, and in Oregon a lightning-sparked blaze on the Malheur National Forest has grown to more than 60 square miles and has destroyed at least 26 homes.

So many fires are burning across the West that the National Interagency Fire Center announced Monday that 200 active-duty military troops were being called in to help. They will be sent to a fire on Aug. 23. The blazes near Chelan, about 180 miles east of Seattle, are burning through

grass, brush and timber, fire spokeswoman Janet Pearce said. The uncontained fires were being

But lots of tourists left Chelan after the fires broke out on Friday, said Mike Steele, director of the Lake Chelan

ly," Steele said. "That's our goal." The fires also threaten apple orchards and packing

pany. The employees are being sent to Chelan Fruit's other facilities in the region, Riggan said. "Our other plant in Chelan is fully operational," he said.

Washington is by far the nation's largest apple producer, and the industry produced more than 140 million cartons of apples last year, of which perhaps 6 million remain in warehouses, Riggan said.

"It's not a major loss to the industry," Riggan said. "It is to us."

Washington farmers grossed about \$2 billion from the apple crop last year, and late-season apples tend to sell at a discount as buyers are waiting for new fruit, he said.

The air was clouded with smoke in Spokane, about 150 miles east of the Chelan fire, on Monday. Air quality was expected to remain in the "unhealthy for sensitive groups" range for at least the next couple of days because of the Chelan fire and other fires, according to the Spokane Regional Health District, which serves the metropolitan area of nearly 500,000 people.

"Smoke from wildfires is especially harmful for those with health conditions like asthma.

We recommend that people who are sensitive to poor air quality limit their time outdoors," said Dr. Joel McCullough, the local health officer. □



Lorne Brunson stands on a hill overlooking remains of his homestead, which was lost to a wildfire near Coyote Canyon in Fruitland, Wash. Firefighters across the Pacific Northwest are working to protect property from fast-moving wildfires that destroyed multiple homes in eastern Oregon, cut off power in Washington and forced thousands of evacuations throughout the region.

(Tyler Tjomsland/The Spokesman-Review, via AP)

battled by more than 900 firefighters, she said.

"Today our focus is on structure protection," she said Monday.

Air tankers established lines to keep the flames from reaching downtown Chelan, fire officials said.

The flames come in the midst of the summer tourist season in the scenic town located along Lake Chelan in the Cascade Range.

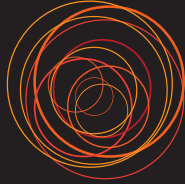
Chamber of Commerce. It's too early to determine the economic impact, but Steele said it would be "significant."

"We're working hard to get our feet back on the ground," Steele said, noting that many of the people who would serve tourists have either had to leave or lost homes.

"We'll be welcoming visitors back here very short-


warehouses in the heart of the state's apple belt during what has been a summer of drought in the Northwest.

Chelan Fruit lost one of its major fruit-packing warehouses in Chelan to wildfire on Friday. The warehouse contained 1.8 million pounds of apples and employed about 800 people, said Mac Riggan, director of marketing for the com-



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Trump Pauses Campaign, Reports for Jury Duty

**JAKE PEARSON
VERENA DOBNIK
Associated Press**

NEW YORK (AP) — Donald Trump pulled up in a long black limousine and gave a very presidential wave as he made his way into the building. Then the billionaire promptly found himself seated next to ordinary, wage-earning, subway-riding New Yorkers, forced to wait — and wait some more — for the wheels of justice to turn.

The Republican presidential candidate reported for jury duty in Manhattan on Monday and spent much of the day like everyone else, filling out forms and wondering whether he would get picked to serve on a jury.

By late afternoon, he was released without getting selected for a trial, his civic obligation fulfilled.

Trump had high praise for the public servants at the courthouse, saying: "The people in the court system are really professional. It was an honor to see how it worked."

The businessman's limo arrived in the morning at the foot of the courthouse steps familiar to viewers of TV's "Law & Order," and he was met by a throng of camera crews, reporters and onlookers. Some booed, while others greeted him with fist bumps and books for him to sign.

Inside, a lawyer posed for a selfie with Trump, a sketch artist presented him with a drawing to sign, and a bystander exhorted him to "save this country!"

A murmur went through the 75 or so other prospective jurors when Trump walked in. But they largely kept a respectful distance from the real estate mogul, reality TV star and Republican presidential front-runner.

"He makes it a little more bearable," said Christian



Donald Trump waves as he leaves for lunch after being summoned for jury duty in New York, Monday, Aug. 17, 2015. Trump was due to report for jury duty Monday in Manhattan. The front-runner said last week before a rally in New Hampshire that he would willingly take a break from the campaign trail to answer the summons.

(AP Photo/Seth Wenig)

Johnson, 21, a University at Albany student doing jury duty for the first time. "He's giving me a lot of material for my Snapchat."

Another juror, retiree Renee Shapiro, said: "I'm looking at him and I'm saying, 'Are my eyes deceiving me?'" She said he looked taller than she expected.

The civic duty was somewhat overdue for Trump, who had been summoned for jury duty but didn't appear five times before. His campaign explained that Trump never got those summonses because they had been sent to the wrong address.

After filing through security, Trump was escorted to a front-row seat in a juror waiting room to fill out a questionnaire about biographical basics, hobbies,

experiences with crime and the courts, and occupation. Trump said he listed real estate, "only because I refuse to say 'politician.'" Jury assembly supervisor Irene Laracuenta told the prospective jurors that celebrities are entitled to the same privacy — and face the same selection process — as anyone else.

"No one — no one — gets special treatment," she said.

Still, from a security standpoint, Trump wasn't treated entirely like everyone else. A special team of uniformed and plainclothes officers shadowed him to make sure he could get around the courthouse easily, as is standard when high-profile people come to court, court officers' union leader Dennis Quirk

said. Trump also brought his own, unarmed bodyguard. "It's a system, and we go through it. And it's a great system. It's a system that works," Trump said at midday. "They do a fantastic job, and I met some wonderful people."

After sitting silently through much of the morning, Trump returned from a lunch break with copies of The New York Times, USA Today and The Wall Street Journal. Not bringing reading material earlier "was a mistake," he said.

Trump said he hadn't asked for a postponement, because serving jury duty is "the right thing to do." But asked whether he hoped to get cut loose after only one day, he said: "I hope so."

During the afternoon ses-

sion, Trump held court with a group of reporters in the back of the jury assembly room in what can only be described as a hang-out session, offering them Tic Tacs and showing off the single key he carries in his pocket — to his home.

"I like to be lean," he said. Over the years, many celebrities, including Madonna, Spike Lee and Woody Allen, have been called for jury duty in New York. Indeed, "Saturday Night Live" cast member Bobby Moynihan was in the jury pool with Trump. Moynihan had no comment.

While it was once de rigueur for doctors, lawyers, various other professionals and elected officials to get out of jury duty, the state eliminated their exemptions in 1996. □

US: Up to 305 Clinton emails might have classified data

STEPHEN BRAUN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The State Department review of Hillary Rodham Clinton's emails so far has found as many as 305 messages that could contain classified information and require further scrutiny by federal agencies, the department said Monday.

In a court filing that was part of a lawsuit against the State Department, officials told a federal judge in Washington they would be able to meet an existing schedule to release copies of Clinton's emails because only about 5 percent of the messages reviewed so far contain possible secret information that could hold them back for further analysis. The agency said those 305 emails with potential classified data were among more than 1,500 documents analyzed so far.

The filing came after Clinton said in an Iowa radio interview that during her stint as secretary of state in the Obama administration, she had never sent or received any emails on her private server that had information clearly marked classified. Republican critics have warned that Clinton may have compromised national security by sending and receiving messages that contained secret information, but she has sloughed off the criticism, saying she followed security guidelines and is the one who made the previously withheld emails available to the American public.

"If I had not asked for my emails all to be made public, none of this would have been in the public arena," she said in the interview, recorded last Friday. But The Associated Press and other news organizations had sought copies of Clinton's emails under the U.S. Freedom of Information Act for years.

The email controversy has proven a major distraction for Clinton as she campaigns for the Democratic presidential nomination in 2016. Republicans hope it will cause voters to view her as untrustworthy. It has also

left an opening for her rivals in the Democratic race, including her main challenger Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders. If Clinton seems vulnerable that might lead other candidates such as Vice President Joe Biden to enter the race.

The AP was first to identify Clinton's private email server and trace it in March to her family's home in New York. The server was surrendered to the FBI last week, months after Clinton said it was her personal property and wouldn't be turned over.

Clinton said in March that she had exchanged about 60,000 emails during her four years in the Obama administration, about half of which were personal and deleted. She turned over the others to the State Department, which is reviewing and releasing them on a monthly basis. Clinton campaign officials did not respond Monday to an emailed request for comment about the court filing about her correspondence.

The State Department has censored some of Clinton's emails for national security reasons before they were publicly released.

The government blacked-out all or parts of those messages under a provision of the Freedom of Information Act intended to protect material that had been deemed and properly classified for purposes of national defense or foreign policy.

Last month, the inspector general for the State Department warned that some of the information that passed through Clinton's home-based private server was classified information produced by the U.S. intelligence community. It's generally not possible to forward or cut-and-paste an email marked classified to a private account because classified email systems are closed to outsiders. But it can be illegal to paraphrase or retype classified information from a secure email into an unprotected message sent to a personal address. □



Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Rodham Clinton speaks at the High School in Exeter, N.H. The State Department review of Clinton's emails so far has found as many as 305 messages that could contain classified information.

(AP Photo/Jim Cole)

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Feds allow Shell to drill for oil in Arctic Ocean off Alaska

DAN JOLING

Associated Press

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP)

— The federal government on Monday gave Royal Dutch Shell the final permit it needs to drill for oil in the Arctic Ocean off Alaska's northwest coast for the first time in more than two decades.

The Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement announced that it approved the permit to drill below the ocean floor after the oil giant brought in a required piece of equipment to stop a possible well blowout.

The agency previously allowed Shell to begin drilling only the top sections of two wells in the Chukchi Sea because the key equipment, called a capping stack, was stuck on a vessel that needed repair in Portland, Oregon.

Because the vessel arrived last week, Shell is free to drill into oil-bearing rock, estimated at 8,000 feet below the ocean floor, for the first time since its last exploratory well was drilled in 1991. "Activities conducted offshore Alaska are being held to the highest safety, environmental protection, and emergency response

standards," agency Director Brian Salerno said in a statement Monday. "We will continue to monitor

the site. It completed what's called a mud-line cellar, a 20-by-40-foot hole at the top of the well that will

actly when drill bits might enter the petroleum-bearing zone.

"It's information that we

Pacific walrus, ice seals and threatened whales already vulnerable from climate warming and shrinking summer sea ice. They say oil companies have not demonstrated that they can clean up a spill in water choked by ice.

Sierra Club executive director Michael Brune said in a statement that President Obama's decision to grant Shell the final drilling permits goes against science, the will of the people and common sense.

"Granting Shell the permit to drill in the Arctic was the wrong decision, and this fight is far from over," he said. "The people will continue to call on President Obama to protect the Arctic and our environment."

The U.S. Geological Survey estimates that U.S. Arctic waters hold 26 billion barrels of recoverable oil, and Shell is eager to explore in a basin that company officials say could be a game-changer for domestic production.

Shell bid \$2.1 billion on Chukchi Sea leases in 2008 and has spent upward of \$7 billion on exploration there and in the Beaufort Sea off Alaska's north coast. □



With the Olympic Mountains in the background, a small boat crosses in front of the Transocean Polar Pioneer, a semi-submersible drilling unit that Royal Dutch Shell leases from Transocean Ltd., as it arrives in Port Angeles, Wash., aboard a transport ship after traveling across the Pacific before its eventual Arctic destination. The U.S. government on Monday gave Shell the final permit it needs to drill for oil in the Arctic Ocean off Alaska's northwest coast for the first time in more than two decades.

(Daniella Beccaria/seattlepi.com via AP)

for their work around the clock to ensure the utmost safety and environmental stewardship."

The Polar Pioneer, a semi-submersible drilling unit that Shell leases from Transocean Ltd., began work July 30 at Shell's Burger J

hold a blowout preventer, and continued drilling into rock above the petroleum-bearing zone.

Smith said it's possible Shell will complete a well this summer. But he declined to say how deep the Polar Pioneer has drilled or ex-

consider proprietary and therefore not something we would release," Smith said. He added safe operations will determine progress. Environmental groups oppose Arctic offshore drilling, saying industrial activity will harm polar bears,

Kansas regulators urged to allow increased electricity rates

JOHN HANNA

Associated Press

TOPEKA, Kan. (AP)

— An agreement that would allow Kansas' largest electric company to increase its rates about 4 percent is reasonable for customers while covering the cost of power plant upgrades, attorneys for the utility and other parties told state regulators Monday.

The rate-setting Kansas Corporation Commission had a 90-minute hear-

ing on the proposed deal struck by Westar Energy Inc. with the commission's staff, a state consumer advocacy agency and some of the utility's largest customers. The company's annual rates would rise by \$78 million — about half of what it wanted — and most households would see their bills increase between \$5 and \$7 a month.

Attorneys representing the parties to the agreement said it was comprehen-

sive and complicated and urged the three-member commission not to change any of its terms. State law gives the KCC until Oct. 28 to issue an order revising Westar's rates, and several attorneys noted that the law encourages settlements, particularly agreements like Westar's where no party formally objects.

"This was frankly amazing, that all these parties were able to come to the table as they did," said Commis-

sioner Jay Emler, a former state Senate majority leader and attorney. "It's very encouraging."

Westar, based in Topeka, has nearly 700,000 customers, and it initially proposed increasing its annual rates by \$152 million. The utility sought to recover costs already incurred for improvements mandated by federal air pollution standards, primarily at its coal-fired power plant near LaCygne in eastern Kansas, and for

upgrades at the Wolf Creek nuclear power plant about 55 miles south of Topeka.

The company also proposed a five-year, \$220 million plan for upgrading its electrical grid and a 10 percent annual profit for its stockholders. The agreement allows grid improvements of \$50 million between now and early 2017; it doesn't specifically set a maximum profit, but it's expected to be 9.35 percent. □



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US Financial Front:

More millennials stuck renting for years before buying home

JOSH BOAK

AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) —

Home ownership, that celebrated hallmark of the American dream, is increasingly on hold for younger Americans.

Short of cash, burdened by student debt and unsettled in their careers, young adults are biding time in apartments for longer periods and buying their first homes later in life.

The typical first-timer now rents for six years before buying, up from 2.6 years in the early 1970s, according to a new analysis by the real estate data firm Zillow. The median first-time buyer is age 33 — in the upper range of the millennial generation, which roughly spans ages 18 to 34. A generation ago, the median first-timer was about three years younger.

The delay reflects a trend that cuts to the heart of the financial challenges facing millennials: Renters are struggling to save for down payments as wages have largely stagnated. Increasingly, too, they're facing delays in some key landmarks of adulthood, from marriage and children to a stable career, according to industry and government reports. These shifts help explain why homeownership, long a source of middle class identity and economic opportunity, has started to decline. The share of the U.S. population who own homes has slid to 63.4 percent, a 48-year low, according to the Census Bureau. And when young adults do sign the deed, their purchase price is now substantially more, relative to their income, than it was decades ago.

First-time buyers are paying a median price of \$140,238, nearly 2.6 times their income. In the early 1970s, the starter home was just 1.7 times income. Millennials are "still very interested in buying a house, but they're delaying that decision," said Svenja Gudell, chief economist at Zillow. "Once they start having kids, they begin looking for homes. We're also finding that — given how much rental rates are currently rising — a lot of folks are having a hard time saving for a down payment and qualifying for a mortgage."

Low mortgage rates have eased some of the pressures caused by the higher prices. But in many of the hottest job markets, the gap between home prices and median income is prohibitively high.

Around the Silicon Valley tech corridor in California, the median home price exceeds eight times the typical income. That disparity is nearly six times in metro New York City, almost five times in Boston and four times income in Miami and Denver. Millennials increasingly find themselves in a situation like that of Lou Flores, a 30-year-old property portfolio manager in San Diego. He shares a one-bedroom apartment with his boyfriend, paying \$1,400 a month to live within walking distance of Balboa Park and the zoo. Flores' parents had built their nest egg by steadily upgrading their homes, ingraining him with the notion that "renting was a waste of money."

Continued on Page 27



This photo shows a sold sign posted at a new home development in Nashville, Tenn. Home ownership, that celebrated hallmark of the American dream, is increasingly on hold for younger Americans, according to a new analysis by the real estate data firm Zillow.

(AP Photo/Mark Humphrey)



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Greek government seen calling a confidence vote

ELENA BECATOROS

Associated Press

ATHENS, Greece (AP)

— Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras is likely to call a confidence vote in his government after the country's third bailout deal with international creditors sparked a rebellion within his party, one of his ministers indicated Monday.

Expectations of a confidence vote, which could lead to early elections, heightened after last Friday's parliamentary vote in favor of the 86 billion euro three-year (\$93 bil-

lion) bailout passed thanks to opposition support and saw dozens of lawmakers in Tsipras' Syriza party dissent. Without the bailout, Greece faces defaulting on its debts and eventually being forced out of Europe's joint currency, the euro.

"I consider it self-evident, after the deep wounding of the parliamentary majority and in particular of the parliamentary group of Syriza, for there to be a move that at least approaches the issue," Energy and Environment Min-



Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras looks at his watch as he speaks to a parliamentary session in Athens, Greece. Tsipras is likely to call a confidence vote in his government, one of his ministers indicated Monday.

(AP Photo/Yannis Liakos)

ister Panos Skourletis told Skai television when asked about the possibility of the government calling a confidence vote.

Skourletis added that early elections may also be necessary in light of the political instability.

The government has said its priority is currently securing the bailout funding, which it needs by Thursday to meet a large debt repayment to the European Central Bank, and that any further decisions on the political situation will be taken from then on.

In order to secure the bailout deal, Tsipras reneged on the promises that saw his radical left Syriza party win January elections. Syriza's coalition government with the small nationalist Independent Greeks was premised on a pledge to repeal austerity measures tied to Greece's two previous international bailouts.

Instead, after months of floundering negotiations with international creditors, the government accept-

ed demands for steep tax hikes and deep spending cuts.

The about-face has angered an increasing number of Syriza lawmakers, including prominent members such as former ministers of finance Yanis Varoufakis, and energy Panagiotis Lafazanis. Both voted against the government.

Last week Lafazanis — who was replaced as minister in a reshuffle last month after opposing the government in a previous bailout-related vote — and another 12 left-wing politicians announced they were creating a new anti-austerity movement, although Lafazanis stopped short of quitting the party.

If a confidence vote is called, a parliamentary debate would start two days later, with a vote held after a maximum three-day discussion. Tsipras will need the support of a majority of lawmakers present in the 300-member parliament — and not less than 120 — for his government to survive. □

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At Press Time:

Rush-hour Bangkok bombing at shrine kills 18, hurts 117

JERRY HARMER
A. NATTASUDA
Associated Press

BANGKOK (AP) — A bomb exploded Monday within a central Bangkok shrine that is among the city's most popular tourist spots, killing at least 18 people and injuring more than 100 across a hectic intersection surrounded by five-star hotels and upscale shopping malls.

With a powerful flash caught on security video and a boom heard blocks away, the blast from the improvised explosive device scattered body parts across Rachaprasong intersection, spattered blood, blasted windows and burned motorbikes to the metal. It exploded during evening rush hour as the area was filled with tourists, office workers and shoppers.

"Suddenly there was a big boom, and the whole room just shook, like someone dropped a wrecking ball on top of our ceiling," said Pim Niyomwan, an English instructor working on the eighth floor of the building

right next to the shrine. "The whole building just shook. My four students were hysterical."

Video shortly after the blast

An emergency worker in an ambulance, frantically pounding the chest of a victim.

No one immediately

national police chief Somyot Poompumuang. "They aim to kill because everyone knows that at 7 p.m. the shrine is crowded with

At least 18 people were confirmed dead and 117 injured, according to the Narinthorn emergency medical rescue center. The dead included Chinese and a Filipino, Somyot said. As a single, devastating blow to this Southeast Asian metropolis, Monday's bombing has no equal in recent history, though Thailand is no stranger to violent attacks. A more-than-decade-long insurgency by southern Muslim separatists has left more than 5,000 dead far from the capital. In Bangkok, politically charged riots centered on this very intersection in 2010 killed more than 90 over two months.

Police said the bomb was made with a pipe wrapped in cloth. Police said it was too soon to determine the motive.

"We still don't know for sure who did this and why," Deputy Prime Minister Prawit Wongsuwon told reporters. "We are not sure if it is politically motivated, but they aim to harm our economy and we will hunt them down." □



Police investigate the scene after an explosion in Bangkok, Thailand, Monday, Aug. 17, 2015. A large explosion rocked a central Bangkok intersection during the evening rush hour, killing a number of people and injuring others, police said.

(AP Photo/Mark Baker)

depicts a scene of shock and desperation: people running for their lives and crying amid the debris.

claimed responsibility for the bombing.

"Those who have planted this bomb are cruel," said

Thais and foreigners. Planting a bomb there means they want to see a lot of dead people."

Seoul:

North Korea resumes loudspeaker broadcasts amid tension

HYUNG-JIN KIM
Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — The rival Koreas have resumed cross-border propaganda warfare as North Korea on Monday matched South Korea's loudspeaker campaign with broadcasts of its own that reportedly included criticism of Seoul and praises for Pyongyang. The mutual propaganda attacks mark a further deterioration of relations between the Koreas, who haven't engaged in any serious talks in recent months.

Last week, South Korea blamed the North for land mine explosions that maimed two South Korean soldiers and resumed propaganda broadcasts for the first time in 11 years in retaliation. North Korea has denied the accusations and threatened to launch strikes on South Korean loudspeakers.

North Korea began its own loudspeaker broadcasts Monday on the eastern part of the border, according to a South Korean Defense Ministry official who spoke

on condition of anonymity because of department rules.

The official gave no further details. But South Korean public broadcaster KBS, citing an unidentified military official, reported that the North Korean broadcasts mainly included criticism of South Korea and praises for North Korea's political system.

The North's broadcasts mark the restoration of inter-Korean propaganda warfare along the border after the two Koreas

stopped the practice in 2004 as part of their efforts to ease animosities. Other practices, including leafletting and the operation of frontline billboards, remain suspended, according to Seoul officials.

North Korea's action also came as Seoul and Washington launched annual military drills that Pyongyang calls an invasion rehearsal. South Korean and U.S. officials have said that the drills are purely defensive in nature.

U.S. State Department

spokesman John Kirby said the "routine" exercises were proceeding normally. "We look forward to completing the exercises, as we always do. This is all about proving alliance capability," he told reporters in Washington.

South Korea has said the two soldiers wounded from the mine explosion were on a routine patrol at the southern part of the Demilitarized Zone that separates the two Koreas. One of the soldiers lost both legs, while the other lost one leg. □

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UN 'horrified' by attacks in Syria



This image made from video shows rescuers taking a victim from the site of Syrian government airstrikes in Douma, a suburb of Damascus, Syria. The United Nations humanitarian chief said on Monday he is "horrified" by the attacks on civilians taking place in Syria, singling out in particular government airstrikes the previous day that killed nearly 100 people in a Damascus suburb.

(Shaam News Network via AP video)

**ALBERT AJI
BASSEM MROUE
Associated Press**

DAMASCUS, Syria (AP) — The United Nations humanitarian chief said on Monday he is "horrified" by the attacks on civilians taking place in Syria, singling out in particular government airstrikes the previous day that killed nearly 100 people in a Damascus suburb. The protracted conflict not only "severely affects" the lives of millions of people in Syria but also threatens the stability of the entire region, Stephen O'Brien said at a press conference in Damascus.

The stark warning comes amid a surge in violence as Syrian government troops, Islamic militants and rebels carried out attacks that killed and wounded dozens Monday, including in President Bashar Assad's coastal stronghold of Latakia.

"Attacks on civilians are unlawful, unacceptable and must stop," O'Brien said, speaking at the end of a three-day visit to Syria, during which he met senior officials and visited the central province of Homs. Government air raids on Sunday killed at least 96 people in the eastern Damascus suburb of Douma, making it one of the deadliest single incidents since the crisis began in March 2011. The airstrikes hit a vegetable market in the suburb, which is a stronghold of the Islam Army rebel group.

Syria's conflict has killed more than 250,000 people, according to United Nations.

"I am particularly appalled by reports of airstrikes yesterday, causing scores of civilian deaths and hundreds injured, right in the center of Douma," O'Brien said. "I am horrified by the

total disrespect for civilian life in this conflict." He appealed to all parties to protect civilians and respect international humanitarian law, and also expressed concerns for 4.6 million Syrian "stuck in hard-to-reach and besieged areas."

O'Brien also lambasted armed groups for cutting off water in Damascus, saying it was unacceptable to "use access to water and other services as a weapon of war."

Water cuts have been used before in the Syrian civil war, with Damascus and the northern city of Aleppo, Syria's largest city and former commercial center, most affected.

In Washington, State Department spokesman John Kirby said the United States "condemns in the strongest possible terms the Assad regime's deadly airstrikes" on the Douma market. □

Egypt's president approves sweeping anti-terrorism law

**BRIAN ROHAN
Associated Press**

CAIRO (AP) — In a significant leap toward harsher authoritarian rule, Egypt has enacted a draconian new anti-terrorism law that sets a sweeping definition for who and what could face a harsh set of punishments, including journalists who don't toe the government line.

The far-reaching new law adds provisions to protect security forces from prosecution, establishes stiffer prison sentences for terror-related offences, as well as heavy fines for those who publish "false news" and a special judicial circuit for terrorism cases.

Authorities claim the measures will halt attacks by Islamic militants and stop the spread of their ideology, but the new restrictions have prompted concern from lawyers, rights groups, the opposition and even some Egyptian politicians and senior judges.

The 54-article bill, signed into law late Sunday by President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi and announced Monday, establishes an extremely broad definition of terrorism, describing it in one article as any act that disturbs public order with force. Some charges, such as leading or organizing a terrorist group, carry the death penalty.

The law also prescribes heavy prison sentences for a range of crimes, including promoting or encouraging any "terrorist offense," as well as damaging state institutions or infrastructure, such as military or government buildings, courthouses, power and gas lines, and archaeological sites.

Egyptians lived under so-called "emergency laws" for decades that gave police extensive powers, encouraging a culture of excess and brutality among security forces, something that partially inspired the 2011 uprising against longtime autocrat Hosni Mubarak. The law was suspended after his overthrow.

Constitutional law expert Nour Farahat, who helped set up guidelines for the first post-Mubarak constitutional amendments, said the government had ignored all advice concerning the new law's constitutional flaws. "This is because the Interior Ministry wants that, and the Interior Ministry is now ruling Egypt," he wrote on his official Facebook page. "Emergency laws were in place in Egypt during Mubarak times for 30 years. Did it eradicate terrorism? I fear for a nation where truth is lost."

Rights activists say the new anti-terrorism law is even more draconian than the earlier emergency laws and that police under el-Sissi have already begun to act with the impunity of the Mubarak days, torturing detainees and denying them basic medical services in overcrowded prisons and police holding cells.

The government denies the allegations, insisting that offenders do not go unpunished, though policemen rarely face prosecution and even fewer serve time. □



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9 dead as shelling increases in eastern Ukraine

DONETSK, Ukraine (AP) —

A night-long artillery exchange in eastern Ukraine between government troops and Russia-backed rebels claimed nine lives on Monday, casting doubt on the already shaky cease-fire.

The fighting between Russia-backed separatist rebels and Ukrainian government troops in the country's industrial heartland eased after a truce was signed in February. But despite pledges to withdraw heavy caliber weapons from the front lines, both sides seem to be engaged in recent heavy fighting.

The conflict has killed an estimated 6,400 people since April 2014, according to the United Nations.

The rebel mouthpiece Donetsk News Agency said artillery fire killed three people in a front line town of Horlivka and two in the rebel capital of Donetsk. Ukrainian officials reported two civilian deaths on their side, in a suburb of Mariupol on

the Black Sea. The Ukrainian Security and Defense Council also reported two troops killed and six injured overnight.

The shelling on Monday came after failed talks between Ukraine, the rebels and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe which were supposed to agree on further steps to withdraw weaponry.

President Vladimir Putin, who met representatives of various ethnic communities in the Russia-occupied Crimea on Monday, did not comment on the recent shelling. But he used the opportunity to claim that the current Ukrainian government is not free to make its own decisions because the country "is being managed from the outside."

Putin has alleged that Kiev's decisions are heavily influenced by Western powers including the United States. □



A woman visit her apartment damaged after shelling in Mariupol, Ukraine, Monday, Aug. 17, 2015. At least seven civilians and two Ukrainian troops were killed overnight today in eastern Ukraine as shelling from the warring sides intensified. The fighting between Russia-backed separatist rebels and Ukrainian government troops in the country's industrial heartland eased after a truce was signed in February. (AP Photo/Sergey Vaganov)

India's premier Modi in rousing speech says UAE to invest \$75b

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — India's prime minister gave a rousing speech to tens of thousands of Indian expatriates in Dubai on Monday, telling them leaders in the United Arab Emirates have promised to invest \$75 billion in India and back its bid for a permanent seat at the United Nations Security Council.

Narendra Modi is the first Indian prime minister to visit the UAE in 34 years. He wrapped up his two-day visit with the speech at the Dubai Cricket Stadium to an estimated 50,000 Indians, among them a diverse

crowd of Muslims and Hindus, who work and live in the Arab country.

With around 2.6 million Indians living in the UAE, Indians not only outnumber the local Emirati population, but also comprise around a third of the total population in the UAE, a federation of seven emirates that includes Dubai and Abu Dhabi.

"The UAE said that they will support India in our bid for a permanent seat for the UN Security Council," he told the audience as they erupted in applause and cheers, many waving the Indian flag. □

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Puerto Rico: Over 60 same-sex couples married at mass wedding



Alma Rosado, left, and Flor Maria Montijo greet the crowd attending a mass same-sex wedding, after they got married, in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Over 60 couples from around the region gathered in Puerto Rico's capital to exchange vows at a same-sex marriage ceremony.

(AP Photo/Ricardo Arduengo)

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP)

— Over 60 couples from around the region gathered in Puerto Rico's capital to exchange vows at a same-sex marriage ceremony while a crowd of supporters snapped photos and cheered.

The mass ceremony at a promenade in San Juan's colonial district this weekend took the same-sex couples through the traditional marriage vows and exchange of rings.

The event follows the landmark U.S. Supreme Court decision in late June requiring every state to recognize same-sex marriages. The U.S. island's governor signed an executive order soon after that ruling to comply.

Organizer Ada Conde, an attorney who filed a federal lawsuit seeking to have her same-sex marriage recognized in Puerto Rico prior to the Supreme Court decision, said Sunday's

ceremony was a "celebration of the triumph of love." Most of the couples were Puerto Ricans, but others from the Dominican Republic, Cuba and Venezuela also participated in the event.

Carrying an umbrella emblazoned with the colors of the rainbow, Puerto Rican gay rights activist Pedro Julio Serrano described the ceremony as "a historic moment for our community."

"After so many years, we are finally able to marry here in Puerto Rico," he said from the promenade in Old San Juan as the couples gathered in wedding dresses and suits.

The ceremony was criticized by the Roman Catholic bishop of Arecibo, Monsignor Daniel Fernandez Torres. Citing the church's catechism, which defines marriage as a sacrament, he said that a marital union can be shared only by a man and woman and that same-sex marriages are "contrary to natural law."

"Today is a sad day for Puerto Rican society," Fernandez said in a statement. Puerto Rico until recently prohibited same-sex marriage and the recognition of such marriages, but the government struck down those laws after the Supreme Court decision. Officials also now allow gay couples to adopt children. In recent days, Gov. Alejandro Garcia Padilla also signed two executive orders that allow transgender and transsexual people to change their gender on their driver's license and protect their rights when seeking medical services. □

CARIBBEAN News Briefs

Drought leads to power lapses in US Virgin Islands

CHARLOTTE AMALIE, U.S. Virgin Islands (AP)

— Authorities in the U.S. Virgin Islands say a worsening drought is causing power outages. The director of the island's water and power authority says dry conditions have caused tree branches to fall and salt air residue to build up on wires and other equipment. Hugo Hodge Jr. says power outages have increased in recent months. Other sectors have been hit hard as well. Virgin Islands Senator Janette Millin Young said Friday that the government expects to provide more than \$500,000 to the Department of Agriculture to help farmers deal with crop and livestock losses. One of the worst droughts in recent years has gripped the Caribbean and led to severe water rationing. □

Official: 18 dead in truck accident in northern Haiti

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP)

— A truck crowded with vendors heading to a market lost control and tipped over in Haiti's northern region Saturday, killing 18 people and injuring 28, authorities said. The accident occurred when the truck swerved to avoid a motorcycle and turned over near the coastal city of Cap-Haitien, said Jean-Henri Petit, a coordinator for the Civil Protection Agency. He said the truck also was carrying loads of charcoal and wood that the passengers had planned to sell at a nearby market. Petit said the 28 injured were all hospitalized, but no details were available on their conditions. □

Cultivation of coca in Bolivia falls to 13-year low

CARLOS VALDEZ Associated Press

LA PAZ, Bolivia (AP) — The United Nations said Monday that Bolivia's eradication of unauthorized crops dropped the Andean nation's area under coca cultivation by 11 percent last year and by one-third since 2010.

At its lowest in 13 years, the 20,400 hectares (79 square miles) of the crop used to make cocaine is just 400

hectares more than what President Evo Morales' government considers legal. It accounts for 15 percent of overall coca cultivation, by U.N. count. Colombia leads with 52 percent; Peru has 33 percent.

Morales said the drop proves Bolivian-style coca eradication is more effective and humane than the U.S.-backed methods long employed in Colombia and Peru and bankrolled in

part by Washington. Morales, who has continued to lead a coca growers union during his presidency, expelled the U.S. ambassador and Drug Enforcement Administration in 2008, accusing them of inciting the opposition. He said Monday that Bolivia's approach, which allows select coca growers limited acreage, is preferred to "external military intervention."

The top U.N. drugs and crime agency official in Bolivia, Antonino De Leo, praised the results at a news conference with Morales.

"Bolivia's success is explained by the efforts of the government and social control of the 'cocalero' unions and, more important, it's been done peacefully and with respect for human rights," he said. □



An Introduction to Aruba's New Happy Hour: Local Press Gets Acquainted with La Vista's Sunset Hour!



PALM BEACH - Recently, the Aruba Marriott team invited a selective group of local media to introduce La Vista's new Sunset Hour, the new happy hour on the island. The press was wel-

comed by the Director of Sales & Marketing Carolina Voullieme and the Marketing Team and enjoyed a Mojito or Caipirinha as welcome drink. Restaurant Manager Mi-

chel Fricke took the time to explain the various offerings at La Vista including the Sunset Hour,

which is La Vista's new happy hour that takes place daily on La Vista's new lounge area facing the beautiful sunset from 5:00pm to 7:00pm.

During the Sunset Hour locals can enjoy 50% off drinks and special performance every Friday by a local DJ and on the last Friday of each month the Sunset Hour will feature a special celebrity DJ.

After enjoying the Sunset Hour on Fridays, locals can savor in the exquisite "Grilled to Perfection" dinner buffet for a very pleasant price from 5:30pm to

10:30pm. La Vista's dinner buffet offers a spectacular grilled buffet featuring roasted prime rib, baby back ribs, prawns, crab legs, a delicious pumpkin and pecan pie and much more.

Don't miss out on a good time, visit La Vista's Sunset Hour today and call 520-6601 to make your dinner reservation.

La Vista Restaurant is located at the Aruba Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino.

About Aruba Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino Aruba Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino boasts 411 guestrooms -- the most spacious on the island -- each with large, private balconies overlooking lush land-

scape and the sparkling waters of the Caribbean Sea. On property, seven restaurants and cafes provide fare from light to elegant, while the largest casino in Aruba, a 6,500 square-foot spa, free-form swimming pool, the H2Oasis adults-only pool and high-energy health club offer entertaining diversions. To obtain more information call the Aruba Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino at 1-800-228-9290 or visit www.arubamarriott.com. Connect with the Aruba Marriott's official Facebook fan page by visiting www.facebook.com/ArubaMarriott and follow on Twitter @ArubaMarriott. □



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bar, Holiday Inn Desk and at the Concierge & Pelican Pier desk located between Holiday Inn hotel & Playa Linda Resort.

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Last but not least our Pizzeria del Mar that offers a variety of pizzas. □



Come and join in!

New Quiz Night Series to begin at Café the Plaza

ORANJESTAD - This Tuesday, August 18, will see the start of a new, 8-week long Quiz Night Series at Café the Plaza in the Renaissance Marketplace. New teams are already preparing for the new series: there are some hardcore contenders in play, which are hard to beat. The best of the best are called Chaingang, Bier Hier, Synergy, Evil Geniuses, Purgatory and Dushi Hospitality Group, among others.

Questions are about a wide range of topics, including a music round and a picture round. Knowledge of current affairs is key. "It's Trivial Pursuit at a high level," explains Café



The Plaza's Coliene, coordinator of the Quiz nights. Each evening consists of

eight rounds of questions; after each round the right answers are given, if pos-

sible with a short explanation by the quiz master. The winning team of the

evening gets five points, number two gets four and third place gets three points. Teams, which may vary per quiz evening, but they should preferably have a permanent team leader. Each team may consist of five players max. The questions are stated in Dutch and in English, if non-Dutch speaking team members are playing. Registration for the Tuesday Quiz Night series is open for everyone. The fee is Afl. 5 per team player per evening. Call 744-2370 for information and come and play along. It's fun!

Photo shows the winners of the previous Quiz Night Series at Café the Plaza, Chain Gang □

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Startup Celebrity Jewel Burks Featured at ATECH* Conference

ORANJESTAD - Jewel Burks can be considered a celebrity when it comes down to defining a startup. It's no coincidence that ATECH* is holding its first ever Technology Conference and Demo Day in Aruba the same month that President Obama and The White House holds its first Demo Day for Startups. The importance of investing and supporting a startup ecosystem is crucial in this day and age to the economic development of a country and recognized by the world's leaders. Jewel Burks of Partpic was one of the top 10 startups present at the Demo Day at The White House and will now soon be in Aruba for ATECH* Conference.

Over the coming weeks we'll be featuring startup stories on a number of entrepreneurs. Some of them will be coders and tech geeks. Others will be marketers or similar types with little technology experi-

ence. The point is, many types of people can be involved in, and start technology companies. Come to ATECH* to hear first-hand from a range of talented business people on how you can do it to.

One such startup is Partpic, a tech startup that uses computer vision technology to identify and source replacement parts. Have a part that you need more of but don't know what it's called? Simply take a picture of it and Partpic will identify the part, pull its specifications, and locate distributors that carry it. It's an impressive technology that has raised over \$1.5 million in seed funding.

Partpic CEO and co-founder Jewel Burks comes from a sales and marketing background. It may seem odd for the CEO of a tech company to not have a tech background, but as Jewel shows there's a lot more to running a burgeoning tech company than just tech-

nology. There's fundraising, networking, marketing, and most importantly team building. As Jewel said in an interview with Madame Noir, "The most important part of your company will forever be the people. Your ability to execute will be tied to your ability to build a great team".

Jewel also serves as an Entrepreneur in Residence for Diversity Markets at Google. She works to help underserved business owners attract and engage customers using Google's business tools. Jewel has been featured as "One to Watch in Tech" in Essence and Glamour magazines. Jewel is a native of Nashville TN, and graduate of Howard University.

ATECH* is excited to bring you Jewel as one of the speakers at the conference. Attend the conference, hear Jewel's story, and discover how tech entrepreneurship is for more than just programmers and



engineers.

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tickets. Updates and developments of the conference can be followed on www.facebook.com/ATECHConference. □



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PALM BEACH - Every two months Taste of Belgium is offering their guests wonderful wine tastings. Experience the sensory examination and evaluation of wine. Taste the range of perceived flavors, aromas and general characteristics of 5 different wines paired with 5 Hors d'Oeuvres. There are five basic steps

in tasting wine: color, swirl, smell, taste, and savor. These are also known as the "five S" steps: see, swirl, sniff, sip, savor. During this process, a taster must look for clarity, varietal character, integration, expressiveness, complexity, and connectedness. Varietal character describes how much a wine



presents its inherent grape aromas. When a wine is well balanced, the wine is said to have achieved a harmonious fusion. Wine and food matching is the process of pairing food dishes with wine to enhance the dining experience, on this special night

with the Taste of Belgium. The upcoming wine tasting is planned on Friday the 28th of August, from 7PM. Come and enjoy this evening with your friends and family, in the cozy, warm atmosphere at Taste of Belgium. Enjoy this perfect wine &

dine night for a very appropriate price. Please make your reservation as soon as possible, to make sure you can attend this night. Reservations are preferred: info@tasteofbelgium.aw Or call: 586-6388. www.tasteofbelgium.aw





Former NFLers appeal terms of concussion settlement

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Former NFL players who object to terms of the potential \$1 billion concussion settlement have filed appeals that are likely to delay payouts to thousands of retirees until next year. About a dozen appeals on behalf of as many as 90 former players were expected to be filed by Monday's deadline. The 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Philadelphia could hear arguments on the issues this fall.

Some challenge the exclusion of future cases of CTE, or chronic traumatic encephalopathy, the brain decay that many link to football concussions. Others are concerned the settlement awards players with neurocognitive symptoms, such as Alzheimer's disease and dementia, but not those with behavioral and mood disorders that some link to CTE and concussions.

A lawyer for 51-year-old former linebacker Jesse Solomon, who spent eight seasons with five teams, called the exclusion "unfair" and "unreasonable" in an appeal filed last week. Solomon could get nothing from the settlement despite suffering from memory loss, slurred speech, severe headaches and other disabling conditions, the appeal said.

Negotiators who forged the deal argue that the science on CTE is still evolving. The estates of players who died and were diagnosed with CTE from 2006 to 2014 can seek up to \$4 million, but future deaths are excluded to avoid "incentivizing" suicide.

Continued on Page 18

A NEW DAY



Jason Day win confirms change of the guard

Jason Day, of Australia, holds his son Dash as he walks off the 18th green after winning the PGA Championship golf tournament Sunday, Aug. 16, 2015, at Whistling Straits in Haven, Wis.

Associated Press
Page 19

Ruling to allow college athletes to unionize is thrown out

MICHAEL TARM
Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — The National Labor Relations Board on Monday blocked a historic bid by Northwestern University football players to form the nation's first college athletes' union, dealing a blow to a labor movement that could have transformed amateur sports. In a unanimous decision, the board said the prospect of having both union and non-union teams could lead to different standards at different schools — from the amount of money players receive to the amount of time they can practice — and create competitive imbalances on the field. The ruling dismissed a stunning decision in March 2014 by a regional NLRB director in Chicago who said football players with scholarships are effectively school employees and entitled to organize. But Monday's decision did not directly address the question of whether the players are employees. The face of the union drive, former Northwestern quarterback Kain Colter, expressed disappointment in the ruling. But he said the unionization drive pressured the National Collegiate Athletic Association, collegesports' governing body, to take athletes' grievances more seriously.



In this Jan. 28, 2014, file photo, College Athletes Players Association president Ramogi Huma speaks during a news conference in Chicago.

Associated Press

"Once we started this movement, within one year, things started changing," he said. "It turned out to be the right thing to do, and I don't regret it." Northwestern welcomed the ruling, and its vice president for university relations, Alan K. Cubbage, praised pro-union players, saying the school applauded them "for bringing national attention to these important issues."

The labor dispute goes to the heart of American college sports, where universities and conferences reap billions of dollars, mostly through broadcast contracts, by relying on amateurs who are not paid. In other countries, college sports are small-time club affairs, while elite youth athletes often turn pro as teens. The biggest factor in how it ruled, the board said,

was the NLRB's jurisdiction, which extends only to private schools like Northwestern, the sole private institution in the Big Ten college sports conference. The board repeatedly cited the need for standardization of rules and policies in sports and said that giving the green light to just one team to collectively bargain would disrupt that uniformity.

NLRB rules do not offer the losing side a clear avenue to appeal Monday's decision. But Ramogi Huma, a former linebacker at UCLA and a union activist who worked closely with Colter, said he has not given up on bringing unions to college football.

"The door's not closed," he said. The board seemed to leave open the possibility of taking up the unionization issue again if it involved other schools or if conditions change for Northwestern football.

Northwestern became the focal point of the labor fight in January 2014, when Colter announced plans to form the first U.S. labor union for college athletes, the College Athletes Players Association. The organizing drive was supported by such unions as the United Steelworkers.

Three months later, regional NLRB Director Peter Sung Ohr issued his stunning decision, saying Northwest-

ern football players who receive scholarships fit the definition of employees under federal law and therefore should be able to unionize. A month later, football players cast secret ballots on whether to unionize. Those ballots were sealed during the appeal and will now be destroyed without being counted.

Under U.S. law, an employee is regarded as someone who, among other things, receives compensation for a service and is under the direct control of managers. In Northwestern's case, Ohr concluded that coaches are equivalent to business managers and scholarships are a form of pay.

The board's decision was welcome news for the NCAA. It has been under increasing scrutiny over its amateurism rules and has been fighting lawsuits from former athletes over everything from head injuries to revenue earned from the use of their likenesses in video games. In a statement, the Indianapolis-based NCAA portrayed the board's ruling as recognition that it is trying to improve the lot of athletes. "This ruling allows us to continue to make progress for the college athlete without risking the instability to college sports that the NLRB recognized might occur under the labor petition," it said. □

Former NFLers

Continued from Page 17

The problem cannot currently be diagnosed in the living.

Other players want the award calculations to include time played in pre-season games or training camp. Currently, a player had to play in three regular season games to get credit for that season. The awards are sharply reduced for men with less than five years in the league.

Former player Andrew Stewart, 49, of Surrey, British Columbia, has Parkinson's disease. He would get only one year of credit for his 1989 season with the

Cleveland Browns under the current plan. But the NFL's disability and pension plan credits him with the three additional years he spent in training camp or preseason games before being injured.

"A lot of players may not be aware of the difference in definitions," lawyer Michael Rosenthal said Monday.

Chris Seeger, co-lead counsel for the retired-player plaintiffs, called the appeals "heartbreaking news for injured retired NFL players who will now be forced to wait many months longer for the care



In this June 25, 2014, file photo, former NFL tight end Ben Utecht testifies on Capitol Hill about concussions and the long term effects of brain related sports injuries. Utecht, who became a leading advocate for players suffering from head trauma, is working on a memoir. Utecht has a six-figure deal with the Simon & Schuster imprint Howard Books, the Abrams Artists Agency announced Wednesday, Aug. 12, 2015. Utecht's book, "Counting the Days Until My Mind Slips Away," is scheduled to come out in the fall of 2016. He sustained numerous concussions

and financial support they desperately need."

The NFL expects about 6,000 former players to develop Alzheimer's disease or moderate dementia in the coming decades. A small number are also expected to be diagnosed with Lou Gehrig's disease or Parkinson's disease.

The maximum awards could reach \$5 million but would likely average \$190,000, given reductions for advanced age, other medical conditions and years spent in the league. The settlement, which includes baseline testing and medical monitoring, covers more than 20,000 retirees for 65 years. □

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Arrival of Jason Day: Aussie fulfills potential with a major

DOUG FERGUSON
AP Golf Writer

SHEBOYGAN, Wis. (AP) — In his eighth year on the PGA Tour, Jason Day reached a major pinnacle of his career by winning the PGA Championship.

And he could be sure that Tiger Woods was watching. "Game over, very happy for Jason. Great dude and well deserved. Hats off to Jordan, incredible season. Calling it early," Woods tweeted, adding in another tweet that he was watching from his new restaurant in South Florida. Always a commercial plug. Day and Woods have become good friends on the golf course, but the fact Woods tuned in to the final round at Whistling Straits brought to mind Day's rookie season when he was filled with big talent, big goals and some big talk.

Going into that year, he was asked during a conference call with Australian writers if he thought Woods was aware of him.

"I can't say for sure, but I think he is," said Day, who was 20 at the time. "If I was him, I would be. I watch everyone. He watches a lot of golf. He has so much time. He played 16 events — what does he do with his time? He'd be aware of me. He'd be saying, 'Here's another kid coming up.'" It was a slow climb.

Now 27, he idolized the work ethic of Woods when he was growing up in Australia and honed that powerful swing under Colin Swatton, his current caddy. No one ever questioned his ability, only the trophies. It took him three years to win his first PGA Tour event at the Byron Nelson Championship, and four more years before he

picked up another title at the Match Play Championship.

Along the way were more nagging injuries than he cares to remember, along with whispers that he was an underachiever.

All that has been put to rest.

This is a new Day, who has matured into one of the top three players in the world and figures to stay there.

"As long as I am healthy, I feel like I'm going to be there a long time," Day said. "I still want to accomplish that No. 1 goal of mine, which is to be the best player in the world. I'm still motivated and still very hungry for that, even after this win. Stuff like this is just the icing on top of the cake when you work so hard, and being able to achieve something like this."

Not much in life has come easily for Day.

His father died of cancer when Day was 12, and if not for the sacrifices of his mother to get him to a golf academy, and the nurturing of Swatton, there's no telling where he would be now. Day once shopped for used clothes at a store where for \$5 he could stuff as much as he could into a bag.

"I remember not having a hot water tank, so we had to use a kettle for hot showers," he said. "We would put the kettle on and go have a shower, and then my mom would come bring three or four kettles in, just to heat them up. And it would take five, 10 minutes for every kettle to heat up." He had every reason to expect a hard road along the rugged terrain of Whistling Straits on Sunday afternoon.

Day had a share of the 54-



Jason Day, of Australia, holds up the Wanamaker Trophy after winning the PGA Championship golf tournament Sunday, Aug. 16, 2015, at Whistling Straits in Haven, Wis.

Associated Press

hole lead at the U.S. Open, where he showed remarkable strength to even finish while coping with symptoms of vertigo. He faded to a 74. A month later, he shared another 54-hole at St. Andrews and missed the playoff at the British Open by one shot when he left a 30-foot birdie attempt a foot short.

This time, he had least had a two-shot margin, along with pressure not to let another chance get away. He feared there would be emotional scars if he didn't finish this one. And if that wasn't enough, he was paired with Masters and U.S. Open champion Jordan Spieth, the new No. 1 player in golf.

Ultimately, that's what made it so special. Spieth's plan was to catch Day

somewhere along the front nine, though he could tell early that Day was smashing the driver and would be tough to beat. Day really put the Texan in a hole by making a 50-foot birdie putt on No. 7.

No one got closer than two shots to Day the entire round.

"He played like he had won seven or eight majors before," Spieth said.

The highest praise for Day came in the scoring trailer, when he said Spieth told him, "There's nothing I could do."

"It's a good feeling when someone like Jordan, who is playing phenomenal golf right now, says that," Day said. "Because it means that he left everything out there on the golf course and my

play this week was just so much better — well, better than everyone else. And that feels good to me, because I was the last man standing."

The Wanamaker Trophy was all he wanted. Only after it was over did Day realize he had broken a major championship record by finishing at 20 under par. The previous mark belonged to Woods, who was 19 under when he won the 2000 British Open at St. Andrews.

Woods watched him do it Sunday.

He saw a mature, married man with a son and another child due in November, and someone now with six PGA Tour wins that include a major.

He's not just another kid coming up. He arrived. □

Fish opens next-to-last tournament with upset of Troicki

MARK SCHMETZER

Associated Press

MASON, Ohio (AP) — Mardy Fish surprised even himself.

Fish opened the next-to-last tournament of his career with a convincing 6-2, 6-2 victory over 20th-ranked Viktor Troicki in the first round of the Western & Southern Open on Monday.

"I was a little surprised at my level," Fish said. "I hadn't practiced a ton or particularly well for a little while. I was struggling with my serve."

"A friend of mine came in a couple days and helped, but it was still sort of a struggle even yesterday to sort of find my serve and stuff. I was obviously real happy with the level."

Fish, a wild card who already has announced that the U.S. Open will be his last event before retiring, next faces second-ranked Andy Murray. It was

Fish's first singles victory on tour since Aug. 18, 2013, against Evgeny Donskoy at Winston-Salem.

Two seeded players lost in the first round. Jerzy Janowicz surprised 14th-seeded Gael Monfils 6-4, 7-5, and Ivo Karlovic improved to 3-1 in his career against 10th-seeded Gilles Simon with a 6-4, 6-7 (3), 6-3 win. Venus Williams had to wait out a rain delay of more than 2 hours before beating Zarina Diyas 7-6 (6), 6-4. In other men's action Monday, Joao Sousa defeated Philipp Kohlschreiber 6-2, 6-7 (5), 6-2, Bernard Tomic beat Sergiy Stakhovsky 6-4, 6-3, and Thomaz Bellucci topped Jiri Vesely 7-6 (5), 6-2. Vasek Pospisil eased past Denis Kudla 6-4, 6-3 in a matchup of qualifiers, and Andreas Seppi knocked out Adrian Panarino 6-3, 6-3.

In women's first-round play, Wimbledon quarterfinalist CoCo Vandeweghe



Venus Williams, of the United States, returns a volley to Zarina Diyas, of Kazakhstan, during a first round match at the Western & Southern Open tennis tournament, Monday, Aug. 17, 2015, in Mason, Ohio.

Associated Press

cruised past qualifier Yulia Putintseva 7-5, 6-2. Jelena Jankovic advanced with a 4-6, 6-4, 6-2 win over Madison Brengle, and Karin Knapp defeated Ana Kon-

juh 7-5, 6-2.

Vandeweghe met Putintseva for the first time since May 2013, when Vandeweghe claimed on Twitter that Putintseva and

her father insulted her after the match.

"The win speaks for itself," Vandeweghe said. "The scoreline speaks for itself. That's all I have to say." □

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AL Capsules

Sale strikes out 15 as White Sox beat Cubs 3-1



Chicago White Sox starter Chris Sale throws against the Chicago Cubs during the first inning of an interleague baseball game Sunday, Aug. 16, 2015, in Chicago. Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — Chris Sale matched a career high with 15 strikeouts while pitching seven scoreless innings as the Chicago White Sox snapped the crosstown Cubs' nine-game winning streak with a 3-1 victory Sunday.

Sale (11-7) allowed one hit — Dexter Fowler's one-out single in the sixth.

The Cubs were trying for their first double-digit win streak since they won 12 straight in 2001. But Dan Haren (8-8) allowed homers to Jose Abreu, Melky Cabrera and Alexei Ramirez in 4 2-3 innings.

David Robertson gave up Jorge Soler's two-out homer in the ninth before finishing for his 24th save in 30 chances.

ROYALS 4, ANGELS 3

KANSAS CITY, Missouri (AP) — Kendrys Morales had an RBI single with two outs in the 10th inning to lift the Royals.

Ben Zobrist singled with one out in the 10th, the Royals' first hit since Eric Hosmer's RBI single in the first inning. After Hosmer walked, Morales singled against Trevor Gott (2-1) as Kansas City improved to 7-2 in extra-inning games.

Kelvin Herrera (4-2) pitched a perfect 10th to pick up the victory.

Kole Calhoun homered in the eighth off Wade Davis to put the Angels up 3-2.

Angels closer Huston Street, however, could not hold the lead in the ninth. He walked the bases loaded before Alex Rios' sacrifice

fly scored Hosmer to tie the score. Mike Trout made a diving catch of Paulo Orlando's scorcher to right-center for the third out to preserve the tie.

ASTROS 6, TIGERS 5

HOUSTON (AP) — Jose Altuve hit an RBI single with two outs in the ninth inning as AL West-leading Houston, boosted by two homers from Colby Rasmus, beat Detroit.

Miguel Cabrera homered, doubled and drove in three runs for the Tigers.

Jake Marisnick tripled off Tom Gorzelanny (1-2) with two outs in the Houston ninth. Alex Wilson relieved and Altuve singled on the first pitch for his third hit of the game.

Will Harris (5-2) allowed two hits and a run in two innings. ORIOLAS 18, ATHLETICS 2

BALTIMORE (AP) — Adam Jones hit two home runs and Gerardo Parra had five of Baltimore's 26 hits as the Orioles breezed past Oakland.

Four days after Seattle's Hisashi Iwakuma pitched a no-hitter against them, the O's tied a team record for hits.

Parra and Jones homered off Kendall Graveman (6-9) in the third, and Baltimore put up a nine-run, 10-hit fifth.

The A's, who lost their sixth in a row, brought in first baseman Ike Davis to pitch in the eighth. He allowed a single and a walk in a scoreless inning.

Wei-Yin Chen (7-6) is 5-0 with a 2.30 ERA in seven ca-

reer starts against Oakland.

BLUE JAYS 3, YANKEES 1
TORONTO (AP) — Jose Bautista hit a two-run homer and Drew Hutchison won his third straight start as Toronto avoided a three-game sweep by beating the New York Yankees.

The Blue Jays and the division-leading Yankees, separated by a half-game atop the AL East, meet seven more times this season.

New York's Carlos Beltran hit big homers in the first two games of the set. This time, he sparked a Toronto burst in the third by losing Troy Tulowitzki's fly to right field in the sun.

Tulowitzki wound up with a two-out double, Josh Donaldson hit an RBI single and Bautista added his 28th homer.

Hutchison (12-2) improved to 10-1 with a 2.57 ERA in 13 home starts. Roberto Osuna closed for his 13th save.

Making his third big league start, Luis Severino (0-2) struck out nine in six innings. **MARINERS 10, RED SOX 8, 12 INNINGS**

BOSTON (AP) — Robinson Cano got five hits and Nelson Cruz connected for his majors-leading 36th home run as Seattle blew a big lead before edging Boston. Franklin Gutierrez homered twice for Seattle, which led 7-0. The Mariners had been outscored 37-11 in the first two games of the series.

Xander Bogaerts and Rusney Castillo homered for the Red Sox, who lost for the first time under interim manager Torey Lovullo.

Rob Rasmussen (2-1) worked two scoreless innings and Danny Farquhar got his first save. Craig Breslow (0-3) took the loss.

RANGERS 5, RAYS 3

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Adrian Beltre and Ryan Strausborger hit solo home runs to spoil Drew Smyly's return as Texas beat Tampa Bay.

The Rangers swept the three-game series and have won four straight games and seven in a row at home.

Beltre broke a tie in the third inning with a solo shot. The

next inning, Strausborger hit his first major league homer in his third game.

Smyly (0-2) allowed five runs in four innings. He made his first start since going on the disabled list with a torn labrum in his shoulder in May. Yovani Gallardo (9-9) got the win and Shawn Tolleson pitched a scoreless ninth inning for his 23rd save in 24 chances.

TWINS 4, INDIANS 1

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Tommy Milone returned from the disabled list and pitched five innings and Kurt Suzuki had two key RBIs as Minnesota defeated Cleveland.

Trevor Plouffe hit his 17th home run and four Twins relievers held Cleveland scoreless over the final four innings, capped by Glen Perkins working the ninth for his 31st save. □

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AUGUST 13 - 19

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SAT 1:50 | 4:20 | 6:50 | 9:30 | 12:05
SUN & HOL 1:50 | 4:20 | 6:50 | 9:30

ED HELMS | CHRISTINA APPLEGATE

VACATION

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES [R]

MON 4:45 | 7:05 | 9:20
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SAT 2:30 | 4:45 | 7:05 | 9:20 | 11:35
SUN & HOL 2:30 | 4:45 | 7:05 | 9:20

HENRY CAVILL | ARMIE HAMMER

THE MAN FROM U.N.C.L.E.

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES [PG-13]

MON-THURS 5:25 | 8:00 | 10:35
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SAT 2:50 | 5:25 | 8:00 | 10:35
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SUN & HOL 3:50 | 6:05 | 8:20

TOM CRUISE | JEREMY RENNER

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SAT 3:40 | 6:30 | 8:00 | 9:25 | 10:50
SUN & HOL 3:40 | 6:30 | 8:00 | 9:25

SANDRA BULLOCK | JON HAMM

minions

MON-THURS 5:30 [PG]
FRI 5:30
SAT 3:00 | 5:30
SUN & HOL 3:00 | 5:30

AMY SCHUMER | BILL HADER

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MON-THURS 9:15
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SUN & HOL 9:15

PAUL RUDD | MICHAEL DOUGLAS

ANT-MAN

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES [PG-13]

MON-THURS 4:20 | 6:45 | 9:15
FRI 4:20 | 6:45 | 9:15 | 11:45
SAT 1:55 | 4:20 | 6:45 | 9:15 | 11:45
SUN & HOL 1:55 | 4:20 | 6:45 | 9:15

ADAM SANDLER | KEVIN JAMES

PIXELS

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES [PG-13]

MON-THURS 4:35 | 6:55
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NL Capsules

Bumgarner HRs and Ks 14 in 3-hitter, S.F. beat Nats

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Madison Bumgarner homered and doubled, struck out 14 and pitched a three-hitter as San Francisco handed Washington its sixth straight loss.

Hunter Pence also homered as the playoff-contending Giants finished off a four-game sweep. Washington matched its longest skid of the season and fell below .500.

Bumgarner (14-6) held the Nats hitless into the fifth inning. The World Series MVP matched his career high for strikeouts while pitching his first shutout of the year. Bumgarner hit his fourth homer this season and 10th overall.

Joe Ross (3-5) took the loss.

PIRATES 8, METS 1

NEW YORK (AP) — Aramis Ramirez had four hits and three RBIs and Pedro Alvarez homered as Pittsburgh finished off its first season series sweep of the NL East leaders.

Alvarez, Ramirez and Gregory Polanco each had run-scoring hits in a breakaway four-run seventh, keyed by a throwing error from reliever Bobby Parnell (1-3).

The Pirates went 6-0 vs. New York this year. Arquimedes Caminero (4-1) got this win.

DODGERS 2, REDS 1

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Zack Greinke lowered his major



San Francisco Giants' Madison Bumgarner (40) swings for a home run off Washington Nationals' Casey Janssen in the seventh inning of a baseball game Sunday, Aug. 16, 2015, in San Francisco. Associated Press

league-best ERA to 1.58 with seven sharp innings and drove in the go-ahead run with his second homer of the season, leading the Los Angeles Dodgers over Cincinnati.

Greinke (13-2) allowed a run on six hits, struck out eight and walked one. The right-hander is 8-0 with a 1.16 ERA over his last 11 starts.

Joc Pederson and Greinke hit back-to-back home runs in the fourth off rookie Anthony DeSclafani (7-8).

Kenley Jansen got four outs for his 24th save in 25 chances and 130th of his

career, just hours after becoming a father for the second time.

BRAVES 2, DIAMONDBACKS 1, 10 INNINGS

ATLANTA (AP) — Shelby Miller took a no-hit bid into the eighth inning as Atlanta went on to beat Arizona on Cameron Maybin's home run in the 10th.

Miller, an NL All-Star last month and among the league leaders in ERA, wound up with his 16th straight winless start.

Leading 1-0, Miller's no-hit try ended when Nick Ahmed led off the eighth with a bloop single to right

field. Pinch-hitter Jarod Saltalamacchia followed with another single that finished Miller, who struck out 10. MMaybin opened with the 10th with a drive over the left field wall off David Hernandez (0-3).

David Aardsma (1-1) struck out the side in the 10th.

MARLINS 6, CARDINALS 4

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Derek Dietrich drove in three runs and Dee Gordon had three hits as Miami broke a six-game losing streak against St. Louis.

Adeiny Hechavarria had two hits and scored two runs as Miami won for the

fourth time in six games.

Jason Heyward homered twice and drove in three runs for St. Louis, which sports the best home record in the majors at 44-18. Chris Narveson (1-0) pitched 2 2-3 innings. He also drove in a run with a squeeze bunt.

A.J. Ramos closed for his 19th save in 24 opportunities.

Carlos Martinez (12-5) gave up one earned run in five innings.

BREWERS 6, PHILLIES 1

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Ryan Braun hit a grand slam to tie Robin Yount's franchise home run mark as Milwaukee swept the season series from Philadelphia.

Braun finished with five RBIs. His 251st career homer came in the fifth when he homered off the scoreboard girder in left-center field.

Rookie Taylor Jungmann (7-4) set a career high with nine strikeouts in 6 1-3 shut-out innings. Francisco Rodriguez got his 29th save.

Aaron Harang (5-14) leads the majors in losses.

ROCKIES 4, PADRES 0

DENVER (AP) — Chris Rusin pitched a five-hitter for his first career complete game and Carlos Gonzalez homered as Colorado beat San Diego to snap a six-game losing streak. □

WNBA Capsules

Catchings climbs career rebounding list; Fever beats Mercury

PHOENIX (AP) — Tamika Catchings took sole possession of second place on the WNBA career rebounding list, and Lynetta Kizer scored 19 points to help the Indiana Fever beat the Phoenix Mercury 75-63 on Sunday night.

Catchings grabbed nine rebounds to reach 3,079 and move past Tina Thompson. A jumper by Kizer sparked a 14-2 run that gave Indiana an 18-11 lead with 1:31 left in the first quarter and the Fever (14-9) led the rest of the way.

A three-point play by Shavonte Zellous capped a 20-7 run to open the sec-

ond half and gave Indiana its biggest lead, 59-36.

Briann January scored 12 points and Zellous added 11 for Indiana, which has won eight in a row.

Candice Dupree and Brittney Griner had 12 points apiece and Mistie Bass scored a season-high 10 for Phoenix (15-9).

The Mercury missed all 13 of their 3-point attempts.

MYSTICS 77, LYNX 69

WASHINGTON (AP) — Ivory Latta scored 20 points as Washington beat Western Conference-leading Minnesota.

Latta hit 7 of 14 shots in 23

minutes, including three 3-pointers. Kara Lawson added 15 points. The Mystics (14-9) hit 8 of 20 from the arc and 15 of 17 free throws.

Sylvia Fowles scored 15 points for Minnesota (18-7), which had its three-game winning streak snapped. Lindsay Whalen added 13 points, and Maya Moore, averaging 21.5 points, had 12 on 4-of-15 shooting.

The Mystics, hitting 58 percent of their shots in the first half, went on a 15-2 run over the final 4 minutes of the second period for a 49-40 lead. The Mystics trailed by six with 2 minutes left in

the game but didn't score again.

SPARKS 76, SKY 64

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Candace Parker scored 21 points and had a career-high 10 assists to lead Los Angeles past Chicago.

Kristi Toliver added 16 points, Nneka Ogwumike 15 and Jantel Lavender 10 for the Sparks (8-16), who bounced back from a discouraging defeat against lowly Seattle in a game they had led by 16. Parker finished just two rebounds short of a triple-double.

WNBA scoring leader Elena Delle Donne had 23 points

for Chicago (15-11).

STORM 72, STARS 63

SEATTLE (AP) — Jewell Loyd had 18 points, six rebounds and four assists, and Ramu Tokashiki added 13 points and a career-high nine rebounds to help Seattle beat San Antonio.

Sue Bird had 13 points and five assists for Seattle (7-19). Bird moved past Tangel Smith into 11th on the WNBA career scoring list with 5,049 points.

Kayla McBride scored 19 points for San Antonio (7-18). The Stars have lost six of their last seven games and are 0-13 on the road this season. □

Amazon's data-driven approach becoming more common

MAE ANDERSON

AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Amazon isn't the only company that is using data on employees to improve productivity.

A New York Times article over the weekend portrayed Amazon's work culture as "bruising" and "Darwinian" in part because of the way it uses data to manage its staff. The article depicted a work culture where staffers are under constant pressure to deliver strong results on a wide variety of detailed metrics the company monitors in real time — such as what gets abandoned in peoples shopping cards and what videos people stream — and encouraged to report praise or criticism about colleagues to management to add to more data about workers performance. The story led to an outcry on social media.

Amazon's CEO Jeff Bezos said in a memo to staff over the weekend that the article doesn't accurately describe the company culture he knows. But experts say the kind of data-driven staff management Amazon uses is set to become more common as technology continues to transform the American workplace.

"Every company is somewhere in process toward using data to get a better handle on who their top performers are and to understand where people

feedback, check-ins, and other metrics.

Consulting firms Accenture and Deloitte both said this year they would revamp their performance review

nology to go from a small data version of our people to a big data version of them."

Tech companies have been even speedier in ap-

Redwood City, Calif., is offering clients. The company, with clients including music-streaming site Pandora and marketing automation company Marketo, sends employees what it calls "pulses," or short surveys about how they are feeling and how they feel about their job.

Glint CEO Jim Barnett said the surveys let executives see how the health of their employees and company are faring in real time, in the same speed with which they might be able to check sales results or marketing impressions. Since the "pulses" to company employees recur more frequently than traditional reviews. And their data can be aggregated to give a clearer picture of how employees are faring overall. "The old mentality was once a year we would check in with an annual survey, have an annual review, set goals," said Barnett. "What we've learned is the world today moves much faster than that."

One of Glint's clients, Marketo, was able to use the data gleaned from the Pulses to see that women in one department were ranking their work/life balance substantially lower than expected. □



In this June 16, 2014, file photo, Amazon CEO Jeff Bezos walks onstage for the launch of the new Amazon Fire Phone, in Seattle.

Associated Press

stand," said John Challenger, CEO of outplacement consultancy Challenger, Gray & Christmas, Inc.

Companies, both large and small, have been moving away from traditional human resources reviews that rely on annual performance evaluations. They're moving toward a more data-driven approach with more frequent

processes, for example, adopting a more data driven approach that includes more frequent ratings by managers and other internal feedback and data that can be aggregated and analyzed to provide a better portrait of performance than a single rating. In an essay in the Harvard Business Review, Deloitte said the new approach uses "the tech-

plying data analytics to staffing. Google, for example, uses data to figure out how to put together optimal-sized teams for projects and figure out what makes effective leaders.

Paul Hamerman, a Forrester analyst who focuses on human resources management and financial applications, says the future may look more like what Glint Inc., based in

Apple said to show interest in automotive testing facility

BRANDON BAILEY

AP Technology Writer

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Adding fuel to rumors that Apple is working on designs for a car, local officials say engineers for the giant tech company recently made inquiries about a former navy base that's been converted into a testing ground for self-driving cars and other cutting-edge vehicles.

Apple, which is best known for making iPhones and Mac computers, hasn't said what kind of testing it hoped to conduct at the GoMentum Station automotive testing facility, which used to be a naval station in the San Francisco

Bay Area city of Concord. "We don't know. They haven't said what they want to test. It could be an iPhone," joked Jack Hall, program manager for connected vehicles and autonomous vehicles at GoMentum Station, which is operated by the Contra Costa Transportation Authority. The agency is promoting a portion of the former Concord Naval Weapons Station as an ideal testing facility for car-makers and tech companies working on automotive technology.

"It's got all the infrastructure of a city," Hall said of the facility. "There are buildings, streets and inter-

sections, but no people." The 5,000-acre site has 20 miles of paved roads, including overpasses, tunnels and railroad crossings, according to the agency's website, which calls it "the largest secure test facility in the world." Another 7,600 acres of the former navy base is now used as a shipping terminal by the U.S. Army.

GoMentum Station already has an agreement with Honda, which plans to test automated vehicle systems there. Hall said his agency hopes to partner with other companies for testing self-driving cars and "connected vehicles" — cars that use the Internet



This June 11, 2015 photo shows the Apple logo on an iMac at an Apple store in New York.

Associated Press

and local networks to exchange a variety of information with other devices and vehicles.

Apple has "shown interest" in the facility but has not reached any agreement for testing there, Hall said. Company representatives have not actually visited yet, he said. An Apple spokesman declined comment Friday.

The tech giant's interest in the facility was first reported by the Guardian newspaper, which cited email correspondence obtained under a public-records request. The newspaper also quoted another official at the transportation authority who said Apple insisted on a non-disclosure agreement which barred him from saying any more. □

Wall Street climbs as China's currency steadies



Trader Christopher Morie, left, works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. The U.S. stock market climbed on Monday as China's currency steadied and optimism among homebuilders rose.

BERNARD CONDON
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The U.S. stock market climbed on Monday as China's currency steadied and optimism among homebuilders rose. Investors pushed the market lower at the open, then began buying after an index of homebuilders showed optimism at its highest since the housing boom a decade ago. Gains were modest, but broad as nine of the 10 industry groups of the Standard & Poor's 500 index ended the day higher, led by health care stocks. "This continues to be a resilient market," said Henry Smith, chief investment officer at Haverford Trust, drawing a parallel between the snap-back today and the one last week

after China devalued its currency. "The averages came back." Global news was mixed. The Chinese yuan barely changed, which was relief to investors rattled last week by a drop of as much as 3 percent in the currency after its surprise devaluation. Oil prices, meanwhile, fell below \$42 a barrel for the first time in six and a half years, and investors reacted by dumping stocks of drillers and other energy-related companies. The S&P 500 ended the day up 10.90 points, or 0.5 percent, to 2,102.44. The Dow Jones industrial average rose 67.78 points, or 0.4 percent, to 17,545.18. The Nasdaq composite climbed 43.46 points, or 0.9 percent, to 5,091.70. The gains for the S&P 500

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

pushed the index to roughly where it was a week earlier, before stocks around the world tumbled on the Chinese news. Bill Strazzullo, chief market strategist at Bell Curve Trading, said trading on Monday fits a recent pattern of investors toughing it out in the face of scary headlines. "We've weathered Greece, we've weathered the slowdown in China, we've weather trouble in our own economy and yet we're in spitting distance of all-time highs," he said. "People are still bullish." Investors are hoping for good results from retail earnings reports this week, including Wal-Mart and Home Depot on Tuesday, Target and Lowe's on Wednesday, and Gap on Thursday. Overall, S&P

500 earnings per share are expected to be flat in the second quarter from a year earlier, the worst results in nearly six years, according to research firm S&P Capital IQ.

In economic news, a report showed manufacturing activity in New York state contracted in August at the fastest pace since the Great Recession.

Among other companies making big moves:

— Zulily, a company that offers flash sales online, soared 49 percent after QVC-owner Liberty Interactive offered to buy it for \$2.32 billion. The stock rose \$6.17 to \$18.74.

— Lennar Corp. jumped \$1.40, or 2.7 percent, to \$53.94 after the National Association of Home Builders/Wells Fargo index showed builder sentiment rose this month to the highest level since November 2005.

— Estee Lauder's stock slid the most in the S&P 500 after the company fell short of revenue forecasts. Its outlook in future quarters also disappointed. The stock dropped \$6.02, or 6.8 percent, \$82.80.

In Japan, the Nikkei rose after government data showed Asia's second-biggest economy contracted 1.6 percent in the April-June quarter because of bad weather and slowing China demand, raising hopes of fresh stimulus. Prime Minister Shinzo Abe has championed a huge monetary easing program aimed at kick-starting economic growth. □

LG to put OLEDs first; Chinese LCD makers slim gap

YOUKYUNG LEE
Associated Press

PAJU, South Korea (AP) — South Korea's LG Display said Monday that it will change its investment priority to advanced displays called OLEDs as Chinese manufacturers quickly catch up with their South Korean rivals in the LCD market. LG Display Co., a supplier to Apple Inc., said that over the next three years it plans to spend 10 trillion won (\$8.4 billion) on future displays including OLED, flexible displays and high-end LCD screens. It did not give breakdown figures, saying the size for each type of display will hinge on market situations. LG Display and LG Electronics are the lone manufacturers of OLED TVs, which are still more expensive and more difficult to produce than LCD TVs. LG Display's OLED business has been losing money.

OLEDs, or organic light-emitting diodes, require no backlight and can be made into a flexible display. Rival Samsung Electronics uses OLEDs only for small-size devices such as smartphones, saying that big-size OLED TVs face challenges in prices and productions.

But LG vowed to continue its high-stake bet. The company said that in order to stay ahead of Chinese companies, it must continue its early OLED push.

LG Display's CEO said that while the Chinese firms will eventually catch up to South Korean makers in the LCD market, there is still an opportunity in the future displays.

"But there is still a gap in OLED," CEO Han Sang-beom said at a news conference.

On the back of massive investments, South Korean electronics companies surpassed Japanese companies to become the world's largest supplier of flat display panels in the early 2000s. Those displays are used to produce televisions, computer screens and mobile devices. □

Indian airline makes order for 250 Airbus jets

PARIS (AP) — Indian budget airline IndiGo finalized an exceptionally large order for 250 single-aisle Airbus A320neo jets on Monday to keep up with rapid growth in the country's air travel.

IndiGo, India's largest domestic airline, had signed a preliminary order last year and firmed it up Monday, Airbus said in a statement. The manufacturer based in Toulouse, France, called it the biggest order by num-

ber of jets that it had ever received.

At list prices, the jets would cost \$26 billion, though customers usually negotiate discounts. Several Asian low-cost carriers are building up fleets amid growing demand, and both Airbus and rival Boeing Co. have been wooing Indian airline companies.

India is expected to become the third largest aviation market globally by 2020, with the number of

airline passengers tripling to some 450 million trips per year, as an expanding middle class trades up from slow train journeys to taking a plane.

IndiGo's president, Aditya Ghosh, said the order would allow his company to further develop low-cost travel in India and abroad. The company has already taken delivery of around 100 Airbus aircraft that were part of an order for 180 aircraft worth \$15.6 bil-

lion signed in 2011.

Despite the projected growth, airlines in India are generally unprofitable due to high fuel costs and stiff competition.

Except for IndiGo, most other airlines, including state-owned Air India, have been incurring huge losses and are in financial distress. The A320neo is an upgraded, more fuel-efficient version of Airbus' popular A320 jets, usually used on mid-range flights. □

2 Citigroup affiliates paying \$179.5M to resolve SEC case

MARCY GORDON
AP Business Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Two Citigroup Inc. affiliates have agreed to pay \$179.5 million to resolve federal regulators' charges of misleading investors in hedge funds that later collapsed. The Securities and Exchange Commission announced Monday the settlement with Citigroup

Alternative Investments, a subsidiary of the bank, and Citigroup Global Markets, an affiliated company. The amount they are paying, \$139.9 million plus \$39.6 million in interest, will be returned to investors in two hedge funds managed by the firms. The two firms neither admitted nor denied wrongdoing

but did agree to refrain from future violations of securities laws. The firms also were censured, bringing the possibility of a stiffer sanction if the alleged violation is repeated. The SEC said the firms sold securities in two hedge funds from 2002 to 2007, raising nearly \$3 billion from mostly wealthy investors or institutions. The agency

says the fund managers falsely told prospective investors they were low-risk and similar to bonds. The hedge funds collapsed in 2008 during the financial crisis, sustaining billions of dollars in losses. In talking to prospective investors, the fund managers failed to disclose the "very real risks" of the funds, the SEC said. Many of the man-

agers' verbal statements to investors conflicted with the disclosures in fund marketing materials, according to the agency. The fund managers "falsely assured them they were making safe investments even when the funds were on the brink of disaster," SEC Enforcement Director Andrew Ceresney said in a statement. □

Changes at the top: Target promotes CFO to new role

A. D'INNOCENZIO
AP Retail Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Target is making more executive changes, promoting its Chief Financial Officer John Mulligan to the newly created role of chief operating officer.

Mulligan, who will also be executive vice president, assumes oversight of stores, supply chain and properties as the retailer continues to reshape its management team. Cathy Smith, a seasoned retail executive, was named to replace Mulligan as CFO.

Monday's changes come nearly two months after the Minneapolis retailer said that Kathryn Tesija, an executive vice president and former chief merchandising and supply chain officer, would shift to a strategic advisory role until she leaves the company in April.

Mulligan and Smith will report to Chairman and CEO

Brian Cornell, who since taking over last August has

Amazon.com. Cornell is investing in e-commerce

emphasis on fashion, children's goods as well as



A customer walks past a bank of flat screen televisions at a Target store in South Portland, Maine. Target is making more executive changes, promoting its Chief Financial Officer John Mulligan to the newly created role of chief operating officer.

been trying to reinvent Target as a more nimble retail force amid increasing competition from all fronts including online leader

and expanding Target's small-format stores as it tries to reclaim its position as a "cheap chic" retailer. Target is placing a heavy

products for the home, and it's bringing more organic, natural, gluten-free and locally produced food to its grocery aisles.

"Bringing together key operations functions under John will put Target on a more progressive path to transformation and help us break down barriers to deliver improvements across our business," Cornell said in a statement. "As our new CFO, Cathy brings significant business and retail expertise to Target.

Her background will be integral to accelerating our long-term growth strategy." Mulligan joined Target in 1996 as a financial analyst. He has been CFO since 2012. From May until August last year,

he also became interim CEO after the abrupt departure of CEO Gregg Steinhafel amid a major credit card breach and a botched up foray in Canada.

Smith, who formally joins Target on Sept. 1, was CFO at Express Scripts of St. Louis, the nation's largest pharmacy benefits manager. □

US homebuilder sentiment improves in August

JOSH BOAK
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. homebuilders grew slightly more optimistic about the housing market in August, putting their confidence at levels last seen a decade ago during the debt-fueled housing boom.

The National Association of Home Builders/Wells Fargo builder sentiment index released Monday rose this month to 61, the highest level since November 2005. The reading was 60 in both June and July. Any reading

above 50 indicates more builders view sales conditions as good, rather than poor.

"The fact the builder confidence has been in the low 60s for three straight months shows that single-family housing is making slow but steady progress," said Tom Woods, a Missouri-based builder and chairman of the National Association of Home Builders.

The combination of stable job gains and low mortgage rates has bolstered sales of new homes this

year. But unlike a decade ago, sentiment has improved without the same dramatic increases in mortgage debt that ultimately led housing prices to crash and threw the economy into a steep recession. Outstanding mortgage debt nationwide fell 0.7 percent in the April-June quarter to \$8.12 trillion, putting it at roughly the same level as three years ago when the housing market bottomed, the Federal Reserve Bank of New York reported last week.

Builders' view of current sales conditions and buyer traffic improved in August, while sales prospects over the next six months were stable. Still, builders say that are finding it difficult to buy land and hire construction crews.

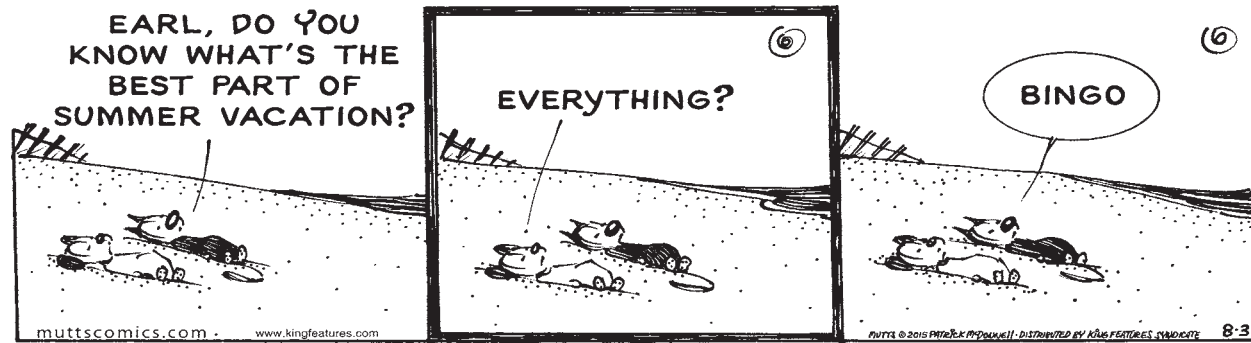
Through the first half of 2015, the government reported that new-home purchases shot up 21.2 percent to 274,000.

This comes as employers have added 2.9 million workers over the past year and the unemployment

rate has dropped to 5.3 percent from 6.2 percent. The hiring has infused the economy with new paychecks that have supported the spending on housing and autos, among other expenses.

And average mortgage rates remain under 4 percent, putting them about two percentage points below this historical average. Mortgage giant Freddie Mac said the average rate on a 30-year fixed-rate mortgage was 3.94 percent last week. □

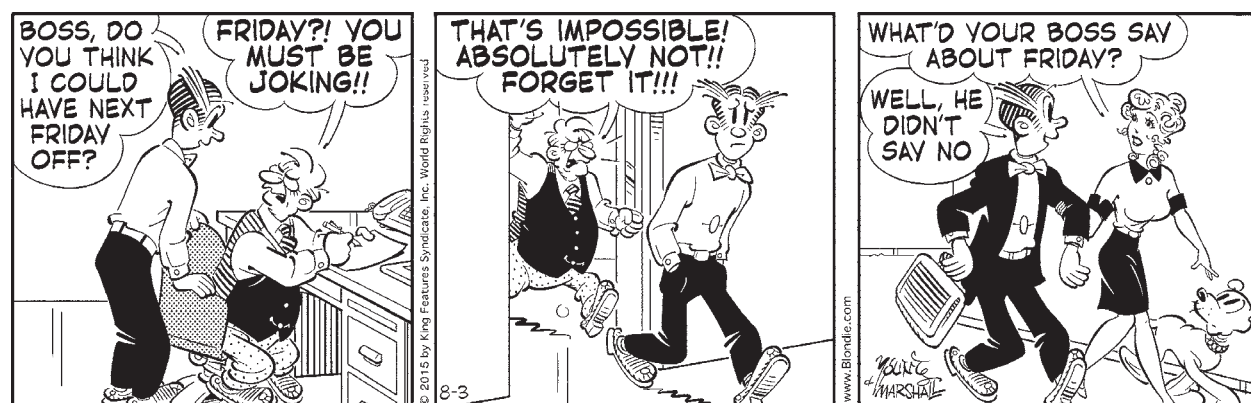
Mutts



6 Chix



Blondie



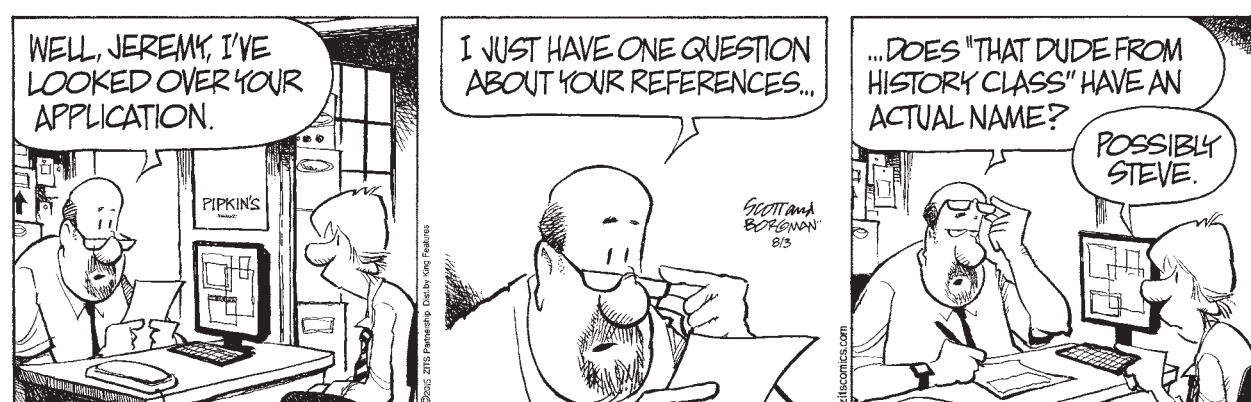
Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

9				8		3		
		1		3	7		8	
	2				9			6
					3	8	9	
4	5			2			3	7
	8	3	6					
5			3				1	
	9		8	6		4		
		7		4				2

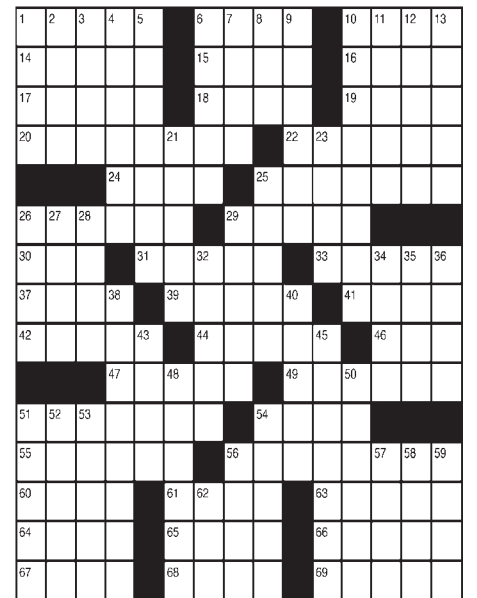
Difficulty Level ★ 8/03

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

5	8	1	2	9	6	7	3	4
7	6	9	5	3	4	8	2	1
2	4	3	8	1	7	5	6	9
1	3	8	7	6	9	4	5	2
9	7	5	4	2	8	3	1	6
4	2	6	1	5	3	9	7	8
8	5	7	6	4	1	2	9	3
3	1	2	9	8	5	6	4	7
6	9	4	3	7	2	1	8	5

ACROSS

- 1 ___ on; was overly fond of
- 6 Happy
- 10 Collapsed
- 14 Silly
- 15 Scalp problem
- 16 Greenish-blue
- 17 Jailbirds' rooms
- 18 Has ___ in one's pants; is jittery
- 19 Baseball scores
- 20 Exciting adventure
- 22 Cold period in history
- 24 Lunch spot
- 25 One lurking about with evil intent
- 26 "___ or leave it"
- 29 Female relative
- 30 Happy ___ clam
- 31 ___ in; enjoy
- 33 Smoke ___; warning device
- 37 Unruffled
- 39 Fight off
- 41 Outdoor feast
- 42 Verb in a bread recipe
- 44 Lowest point
- 46 Malia, to Sasha
- 47 Capital of South Korea
- 49 Fight
- 51 Annoys
- 54 Give up land
- 55 Goes into
- 56 Result of a high fever, perhaps
- 60 Slightly open
- 61 Dance at a Bar Mitzvah
- 63 Went skyward
- 64 "Old King ___ was a merry..."
- 65 Mysterious sky sights, for short
- 66 Memos
- 67 Watched
- 68 Sticky strip
- 69 Garbage



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews 8/3/15

Saturday's Puzzle Solved

SLUR	ISAAC	ABCS
TUNE	NADIR	REAL
AKIN	CLOSE	MAGI
REVENUE	LABORED	
WAR	FEMUR	
DOPEY	BUS	NEARS
WILD	PAR	ANDREA
ALA	RIGIDLY	DAB
RETAIN	OIL	CODO
FREUD	MUD	WORST
DESIS	RED	
BLURRED	MEDDLED	
LOSE	EDDIE	LURE
OBESITY	PLANK	EARN
BEDS	SEEDS	RUST

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DOWN

- 1 Yahtzee cubes
- 2 Dollar bills
- 3 Powder, for short
- 4 Intertwine
- 5 Hopelessness
- 6 Forest opening
- 7 Out of ___; misbehaving
- 8 Perform
- 9 Want
- 10 "Adieu!"
- 11 Sugar substitute
- 12 Sudden forward thrust
- 13 High-powered surgical beam
- 21 Run ___; chase
- 23 ___Cola
- 25 Made a stack
- 26 Small nail
- 27 As comfortable ___ old shoe
- 28 Leaf vegetable
- 29 Himalayan nation
- 32 One of the planets
- 34 Vienna's nation: abbr.
- 35 Metal bar
- 36 Ponder
- 38 Learned well
- 40 Written slander
- 43 Forest animal
- 45 Glowing
- 48 "Put up ___ up!"
- 50 Extreme fear
- 51 Tranquility
- 52 Have fun doing
- 53 No longer fresh
- 54 Stop
- 56 Let fall
- 57 Greek letter
- 58 ___ up; spends
- 59 Fit snugly together
- 62 Son ___ gun

More millennials stuck renting

Continued from Page 7

But the median home in San Diego costs more than a half million dollars, according to the area's association of Realtors.

So Flores figures ownership is at least a few years away.

"Here in California, if you're not married or with someone, it's impossible to buy a home without financial backing from your parents," Flores said.

Few first-timers around the country can lean on their parents. Among homebuyers last year under age 34, 14 percent received down payment help from family or friends, according to a Federal Reserve survey.

Most first-timers still depend on personal savings for at least some of their down payments. But rising rental prices have complicated the task of socking away money for a down payment. Fueled by a surge of renters across all age ranges, rental prices nationally have grown at roughly twice the pace of average hourly wage growth, which was a paltry 2.1 percent over the past year.

A result is that those prices are consuming more income. A striking 46 percent of renters ages 25 to 34 — the core of the millennial population — spend more than 30 percent of their incomes on rent, up from 40

percent a decade earlier, according to a report by Harvard University's Joint Center of Housing Studies. (The housing industry generally regards a figure above 30 percent as financially burdensome.) Some of the cost burdens stems from a shift toward people who envision themselves renting for several years and therefore seeking the kinds of amenities more commonly associated with home ownership. Based on searches for rentals on RadPad in June and July, for example, apartments with stainless steel appliances and swimming pools were disproportionately popular in cities with lower homeownership rates such as Los Angeles, Chicago and Washington. Nearly a fifth of Washing-

ton-area searches sought apartments with stainless steel appliances, compared with 5 percent nationwide. More than a third of Chicagoans wanted an apartment with a pool, versus 18 percent nationally. Job security has become a more central consideration for first-time buyers. The Money Source, a mortgage lender and servicer, examined applications from 5,404 millennial homebuyers. It found that the buyers had averaged nearly 4.5 years in their field of work and had held their current job for slightly more than three years. Those figures point to how critical career stability has become for a generation that entered the workforce during the Great Recession and its slow-growth recovery. □

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30	515	\$4,900
30	311	\$5,000
23	343	\$4,500
27	103	\$4,000
29	134	\$4,500
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Scientists find evidence of prehistoric massacre in Europe

FRANK JORDANS
Associated Press

BERLIN (AP) — Scientists say they have found rare evidence of a prehistoric massacre in Europe after discovering a 7,000-year-old mass grave with skeletal remains from some of the continent's first farmers bearing terrible wounds.

Archaeologists who painstakingly examined the bones of some 26 men, women and children buried in the Stone Age grave site at Schoeneck-Kilianstaedten, near Frankfurt, say they found blunt force marks to the head, arrow wounds and deliberate efforts to smash at least half of the victims' shins — either to stop them from running away or as a grim message to survivors.

"It was either torture or mutilation. We can't say for sure whether the victims were still alive," said Christian Meyer, one of the authors of the study published Monday in the journal *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.

Meyer said the findings from Schoeneck-Kilianstaedten bolster theories put forward after the earlier discovery of two other grave sites in Germany and Austria. At all three sites, the victims and the perpetrators appeared to have been from the Linearbandkeramik — or LBK — culture, a farming people who arrived in central Europe about 5,500 B.C. Their name derives from the German phrase for "lin-

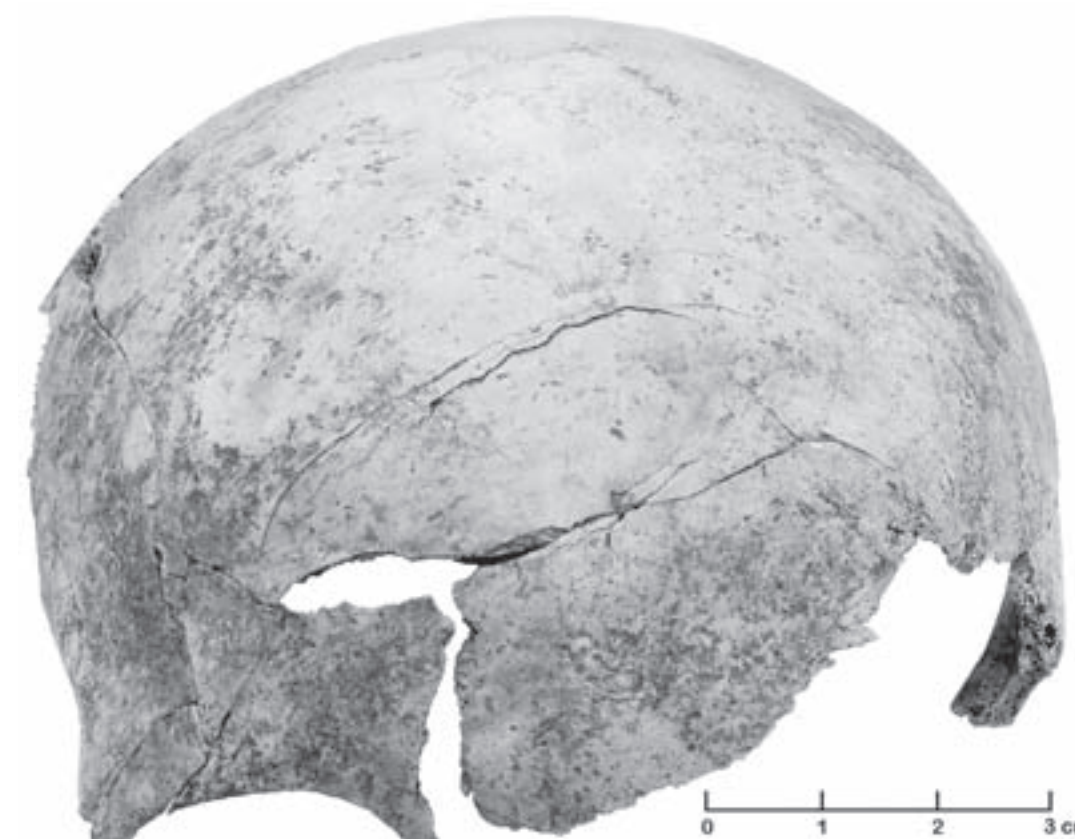


Photo released Monday Aug. 17, 2015 by researcher Christian Meyer shows the fractured skull of an about eight-years-old child with a digital mark (3cm=1.18 inch) to show the size. The perimortem cranial injury in the frontal bone of the child that lived in the Stone Age was found on skeletal remains in a grave near Frankfurt, Germany, that bear signs of terrible violence some 7,000 years ago, rare evidence, scientists say, of a massacre among Europe's prehistoric people.

Associated Press

ear band ceramics," a reference to the style of their pottery.

Intriguingly, the sites have all been dated toward the end of the LBK's 600-year presence, suggesting that members of this culture — which is thought to have developed in what is now Hungary and spread along the Danube River — may have turned on each other. "It's about finding patterns. One mass grave was spectacular, but it was just a single grave. But when

several such sites are found from the same period, then a pattern emerges," said Meyer.

In their article, the authors suggested that "the new evidence ... in conjunction with previous results, indicates that massacres of entire communities were not isolated occurrences but rather were frequent features of the last phases of the LBK."

Chris Scarre, an archaeologist at the University of Durham, England, who wasn't

involved in the study, said its conclusions seemed well supported by the evidence.

"What is particularly interesting is the level of violence. Not just the suppression of a rival community — if that is what it was — but the egregious and systematic breaking of the lower legs," said Scarre. "It suggests the use of terror tactics as part of this inter-community violence."


Meyer, an anthropologist at the University of Mainz,

Germany, said nobody can say for sure what prompted the killings so long after the fact. But it's possible to put forward theories, based on what's known about the LBK culture and the conditions they faced. For example, the end of LBK culture coincided with a period of climate change.

"The LBK population had expanded considerably, and this increases the potential for conflict," said Meyer. "Also, the LBK were farmers, they settled. So unlike hunter gatherers, who could move away to avoid conflict, these people couldn't just escape. Add to this the fact that there may have been a period of drought that constrained resources, causing conflicts to erupt." Meyer said the theory of conflict between different groups within the LBK is supported by the existence of an apparent ancient border near the Schoeneck-Kilianstaedten site. Archaeologists have found that flint was traded on either side of the divide but not necessarily across it — suggesting the two groups did not see each other as kin, he said.

The attackers, however, spared some members of the group, with victims skewed toward young children, adult men and older women.

"It's likely that the young women, who are missing in the grave, were kidnapped by the attackers," said Meyer. □



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Musician Stevie Wonder performs during a free pop-up concert Monday, Aug. 17, 2015, outside City Hall in Philadelphia. Associated Press

Stevie Wonder performs free pop-up concerts in Northeast

WASHINGTON (AP) — Stevie Wonder is performing free pop-up concerts in Washington, Philadelphia and New York. The D.C. Office of Motion Picture and Television Development says Wonder performed a few songs at the D.C. Armory Mall on Monday. The first 1,000 people got doughnuts. The concert is part of a news conference promoting Wonder's "Songs in the Key of Life Performance" tour.

In Philadelphia, a huge crowd gathered at Dilworth Park to hear hits including "Superstition" and "Uptight." Wonder took questions from the media and spoke against gun violence. Live Nation Vice President of Booking Ted Mankin tells WTOP-FM that Wonder will perform in New York on Monday, too. Wonder's tour will stop in Washington on Oct. 3, in Philadelphia on Oct. 7 and in New York on Nov. 24. □

Hit maker David Foster: Asia looking to dominate world music

TERESA CEROJANO

Associated Press

MANILA, Philippines (AP)

— Music hit maker David Foster said Monday he's always on the lookout for fresh talent, and Asia seems to have a lot of it.

Foster is in Manila for the "HITMAN: David and Friends" Asia tour concert on Tuesday with Natalie Cole, Boyz II Men, Ruben Studdard, Filipino singer Charice Pempengco and new Filipino talent Mark Mabasa.

Foster told The Associated Press in an interview that Filipinos have an edge because they grow up on karaoke and American music, and from there formulate their own sound.

The record producer and 16-time Grammy-winning composer said Asians are figuring out how to dominate the world with their music, with K-pop in South Korea well on its way to doing so.

Foster has mentored Charice, who broke into the global music industry through popularity on YouTube.

He has also promised Asia's Got Talent Season 1 finalist Gerphil Flores that the world will know her. He compared Flores' opera-style singing



Musician David Foster answers questions at a news conference Monday, Aug. 17, 2015 in suburban Pasay city, south of Manila, Philippines. Associated Press

to Sarah Brightman and Josh Groban.

"It's not that I'm particularly looking for stars in Asia. I'm just always looking for stars and I spend so much time in Asia. I know they are out there," he said.

He said he is hoping to see more singers whom he can help break into the music industry during the second season of Singapore-based Asia's Got Talent, where he is a judge.

In a group news conference, Cole said she is hoping a song from her Spanish-language album produced by Foster's record label

can be part of Tuesday's show. The album, released in 2013, has been nominated for three Latin Grammy awards.

The 65-year-old singer and daughter of singing legend Nat King Cole said she loved recording in Spanish and would like to record more Spanish songs because "there's really great Latin music out there."

Charice said she was excited but a bit nervous about expectations of her in her first concert in four years, but that she was going to have fun and "just give my best, if not 100, 200 percent." □

Tracy Morgan, Amy Schumer to guest host 'SNL'

NEW YORK (AP) — Tracy Morgan is coming home to "Saturday Night Live" as guest host on Oct. 17. His appearance also promises to be a coming-out party for the former "SNL" cast member and star of "30 Rock," who has been recuperating from injuries he suffered in a June 2014 crash that also killed a fellow comedian when their limousine was hit by a Wal-Mart truck on the New Jersey Turnpike. This past June, Morgan was interviewed on the "Today" show in his first public appearance since the accident. At that time, he said, "I can't wait to get back to (comedy), but right now, my goal is just to heal and get better. Because

I'm not 100 percent yet. I'm not. And when I'm there, you'll know it. I'll get back to making you laugh. I promise you." NBC on Monday also announced that on Oct. 3, Miley Cyrus will return as host for a third time to kick off the 41st "SNL" season. Then on Oct. 10, Amy Schumer will make her hosting debut. Schumer is coming off her summer box office hit, "Trainwreck," for which she served as both star and writer. She stars in the Comedy Central series, "Inside Amy Schumer," and in an upcoming HBO comedy special "Amy Schumer: Live From the Apollo." Musical guests for these "SNL" editions will be announced later. □



In this April 9, 2014 file photo, actor Tracy Morgan attends the FX Networks Upfront premiere screening of " Fargo " at the SVA Theater in New York.

Associated Press

Like N.W.A, 'Compton' likely to inspire imitations

**JAKE COYLE
LINDSEY BAHR**
AP Film Writers

NEW YORK (AP) — Underestimate the crossover appeal of N.W.A at your peril. More than 25 years after the Los Angeles hip-hop group went double platinum with their unheralded debut album largely without the benefit of radio play, Ice Cube, Dr. Dre and the rest shook up Hollywood in the dog days of summer.

"Straight Outta Compton," the N.W.A biopic produced by Cube and Dre, blew away industry expectations over the weekend with a \$60.2 million debut, even higher than the \$56.1 estimated on Sunday. The film, co-financed by Universal Pictures and Legendary Pictures for just \$29 million, was propelled by the excitement stirred up by the film's trailer, savvy digital marketing, strong reviews and the same kind of audacity that made N.W.A famous in the first place. Just as N.W.A's debut album stood out from the pack in 1988 when hair metal bands like Def Leopard and Guns N'Roses were dominating the airwaves, "Straight Outta Compton" stands far apart from the majority of movies to land at the multiplex this summer.

The only other film with a largely African American cast to hit theaters this summer was the independently made "Dope." It's a long term trend that's found in-



This photo provided by Universal Pictures shows, Aldis Hodge, from left, as MC Ren, Neil Brown, Jr. as DJ Yella, Jason Mitchell as Eazy-E, O'Shea Jackson, Jr. as Ice Cube and Corey Hawkins as Dr. Dre, in the film, "Straight Outta Compton." The movie released in U.S. theaters on Friday, Aug. 14, 2015.

creasing scrutiny. A recent study by the University of Southern California found that nearly three-quarters of all speaking or named characters in the top 100 highest-grossing movies of 2014 were white.

So "Straight Outta Compton" — a fresh and brash alternative to the usual summer spectacles — arrived with a wave of enthusiasm behind it, rising to the level of must-see cultural flashpoint. The social conditions of N.W.A's rise from South Central Los Angeles also bear particular relevance to recent protests over abusive and biased police enforcement.

On Sunday, filmmaker Ava DuVernay, whose Oscar-nominated January release "Selma" struggled at the box office despite rave reviews and similar relevance, tweeted a passionate response to "Compton," saying it "captured the plight of the black artist."

"We rapped along, clapped, laughed, cried. For all that has happened," said DuVernay. "All the stifling of our voices as young black people in that place at that time while a war was going on against us." The success of "Straight Outta Compton" could encourage studios to

embrace more racially charged stories. Certainly, many will hope for such an effect, even if it stands against the prevailing risk-averse nature of today's Hollywood.

"I don't think this movie is going to change anything, but I do think we're in the midst of a change. I think it's subtle," says David Poland, editor of Movie City News. "There is going to be a little less resistance in the next couple of years to movies about women and movies about people of color and things like rap — cultural things of the generation that is now 30."

Before Universal jumped

in, Warner Bros. passed on "Straight Outta Compton" in part because of the project's riskiness. Those concerns earlier appeared to be justified. Marion "Suge" Knight, who's portrayed in the film, is awaiting trial for allegedly running over two men in January after an altercation with Cle "Bone" Sloan, a technical adviser on the movie.

There were also fears of violence at theaters, particularly after several shootings at movie theaters in recent months. Universal helped some theaters pay for extra security, but no violence materialized.

What did materialize was the diverse audience of a mainstream hit. According to Universal, the film, which stars Corey Hawkins (as Dr. Dre), O'Shea Jackson Jr. (as his father, Ice Cube) and Jason Mitchell (as Eazy-E) was 46 percent African American, 23 percent Caucasian and 21 percent Hispanic.

"This is a universal story," said director F. Gary Gray in an earlier interview. "It can inspire people from all walks of life. And if you hire unknowns, the story will stand on its own. You won't be distracted by a celebrity mimicking another celebrity."

Phil Contrino, chief analyst for BoxOffice.com, believes "Straight Outta Compton" has already inspired more films like it, even if N.W.A remains a singular entity particularly ripe for the biopic treatment. □

Associated Press

Book Review:

'Friction' by Sandra Brown is gripping page-turner

JEFF AYERS
Associated Press

What starts as a custody battle soon dissolves into a conspiracy in Sandra Brown's latest romantic thriller, "Friction."

Texas Ranger Crawford Hunt hit the skids after his wife's death. He began to drink, and even started to slide on his job duties. He turned himself around and is now sober. Hunt also met every court-appointed session and appointment he was required to attend.

Now he's ready to take back custody of his young daughter from her grandparents. But they don't want to give her up, especially her grandfather, who blames Hunt for his daughter's death.

Judge Holly Spencer presides over the custody battle, and when Hunt takes the stand, a gunman walks into the courtroom and opens fire. Acting on instinct, Hunt saves Spencer's life and also chases the shooter and assists with

his takedown. Spencer is thankful for Hunt's rescue, but Hunt realizes that his actions jeopardize his chances of getting custody of his daughter.

The battle between Spencer and Hunt heats up as he tries to convince her to rule in his favor. She feels that she cannot be fair in her judgment after the incident. Both soon start to question what really happened during the shooting and why someone would target Spencer for execu-

tion.

Hunt and Spencer are perfect characters for a story diving into romantic suspense. The secondary characters seem a bit stereotypical, with some designed as nothing more than foils to create conflict. That nitpick aside, Brown has written another gripping page-turner with a few surprises that will enthrall both her fans and anyone who enjoys their tales mixed with a romantic flair. □



This photo provided by Grand Central Publishing shows the cover of the book, "Friction," by author Sandra Brown.

Associated Press

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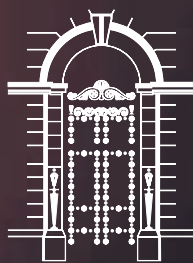
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